THE TIMES

35p

No. 65,961

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6 1997

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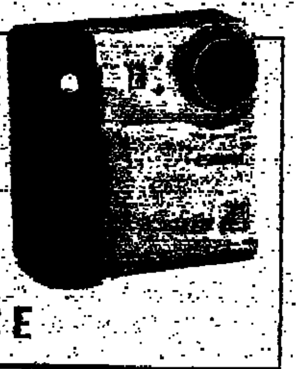

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by Bridget Harrison

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£350,000 profit goes to charity

Simon to sell £2.3 million BP shares

By Andrew Pierce
Political Correspondent

LORD SIMON of Highbury bowed to political pressure yesterday and announced that he was selling his £2.3 million BP shareholding and giving to charity the £350,000 profit it had accrued since he became a minister.

Lord Simon said that publication earlier that day of the oil company's second-quarter results meant he would no longer be breaking insider-trading laws if he sold the 270,000 shares.

The move by the minister, who gave up a £240,000 salary as chairman of BP to work unpaid for the Government, was part of a damage-limitation exercise by Labour ahead of Friday's celebrations to mark Tony Blair's first 100 days in office. The Tories accused the Government of a "breathtaking U-turn".

Only 24 hours earlier the Government had maintained that because of insider dealing rules Lord Simon, Minister *for Trade and competitiveness* in Europe, would not review his shareholding until the New Year.

The shares rose 39.5p yesterday on the back of second-quarter figures, showing higher-than-expected profits, which added a further £105,000 to the value of Lord Simon's holding. The shares have soared 18 per cent since May 7 when his appointment was announced.

The £400,000 shares held for Lord Simon by BP in a Jersey offshore trust, which company rules dictated could not be released until May 1998, will also be sold after he secured special dispensation from the directors.

Simon: minister before he joined Labour party

As the Tories claimed vindication for their campaign, Lord Simon became embroiled in further embarrassment. It emerged yesterday that he joined the Labour party only after he was appointed to the Government. Lord Simon, a close neighbour of Mr Blair in Islington prior *to the election, had not* joined the 1,500-strong Islington South and Finsbury branch.

During his first press conference on the controversy, which has dogged the Government for the past month, Lord Simon said he had decided to sell the shares after the BP board confirmed that he was no longer in possession of any insider information in relation to the company.

Lord Simon, who was flanked by Peter Mandelson, the *Minister without Portfolio* responsible for policy presentation, said: "I have acted in accordance with the letter and spirit of the rules throughout this affair. I have acted with complete propriety. At no *stage has anyone alleged that I* have even had the opportunity to take decisions in my capacity as a minister which could in any way affect my shares."

He added: "I deeply regret the innuendos put forward by the Opposition in this affair and hope they do not discourage other business people seeking a position in public life."

Asked whether he now regretted leaving the commercial world, in which he was *regarded as one of Britain's* leading businessmen, he replied: "I have no regrets. It's an interesting learning curve."

Lord Simon denied that he had been forced to back down because of pressure from the Tories over a potential conflict of interest. He also rejected the suggestion that he had been ordered by the Prime Minister to sell the shares, and surrender the £350,000 profit to charity.

"This is a totally personal *decision," he said. "As* far as I'm concerned I certainly haven't spoken to him [Tony Blair]." He added that he had never considered resignation because there had never been a conflict of interest.

Lord Simon declined to reveal which charities would benefit.

While he was speaking, Lord Simon's car was given a £35 parking ticket while it was illegally parked in Millbank.

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Dr George Carey in Sydney: "merely restating" Church's well known position

Remarriage by Prince 'would cause crisis' says Carey

By Ruth Gledhill and Alan Hamilton

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said yesterday that the Prince of Wales would plunge the Church of England into crisis if he remarried.

Dr Carey's comments, at a news conference in Australia to mark the 150th anniversary of the Anglican Church in Australia, took English bishops by surprise and prompted warnings that the Church could face disestablishment over the issue.

The Archbishop's comments come as the Prince has been taking steps publicly to acknowledge his relationship with Camilla Parker Bowles, including hosting a fiftieth birthday party for her at Highgrove last month. Dr Carey said that the Prince had no wish to remarry and the fact that he is divorced is not an issue. But Dr Carey said: "It is true that remarriage would create a crisis for the Church."

The Prince of Wales would become Supreme Governor of the Church of England on succession to the throne and, at present, the Church's laws prohibit the marriage of a divorced person in church where the former spouse is still living.

The Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York, said: "The Archbishop is right: it would cause a crisis in the Church if the Prince of Wales remarried." He said the Archbishop should speak out about the Prince's relationship with Mrs Parker Bowles, which he has never done.

"The Church cannot go along with remarriage, but neither can it go along with a mistress," he added. "What the Church seems to be doing *publicly is pretending* Mrs Parker Bowles does not exist." He said that if the Prince remarried, it would create pressure for disestablishment. "I am in favour of disestablishment, but I hope it does not come for that reason."

The Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, said: "The Archbishop was not referring to any new crisis; he was simply referring to the Church's marriage *discipline*, where under normal circumstances people are not able to get married in church for a second time if a former partner is still living. It certainly would not be a constitutional crisis and would not lead to disestablishment."

The Prince of Wales has the overwhelming backing of the country's "top people" who believe he should be able to marry whoever he likes. A poll of *100 prominent people* said it should make no difference if a king was married to a divorcee............ Page 2

Lord Blake, the Conservative peer and constitutional historian, predicted that if the Prince did marry Mrs Parker [illegible] Church would not be a[illegible]ock his path to the throne. "I do not believe it *would* create a major difficulty. I think public opinion would accept it and that is what matters," he said.

He added that he found it surprising that the Archbishop had chosen to make his comments in Australia rather than in England.

Church sources said that the Archbishop had simply been repeating the well known stance of the Church on the question of divorcees remarrying in church.

However, one senior source said: "This intervention is rather untimely. Many people

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Outside smokers to be banned

A decree to be signed by President Clinton will ban smokers from lighting up at the entrances to federal buildings, a practice that has grown with the increase of no-smoking offices. In London companies are trying to stop smoking near offices .. Page 3

£13m customer

A single Coutts customer in America cost NatWest £13 million. The bank declined to comment further on the private bank's loss but it was not believed to be the Duchess of York .... Page 23

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Thousands hit by university logjam

By David Charter, Education Correspondent

MORE than 50,000 qualified applicants are forecast to be denied a university place this summer, as thousands of late entrants join the scramble for the last free higher education places.

Many of the 26,000 people who planned to take a gap year after A-levels are expected to seek a university place in October to avoid losing up to £6,000 under government plans to charge students' tuition fees and scrap grants.

University admissions tutors are also braced for a late rush of applications from people who left school over the last decade with strong A-level grades. They will threaten to squeeze out this summer's A-level students who missed the target grades for their first-choice university, but would usually find an alternative in the clearing process.

University admissions officers are predicting this year's clearing process — which matches students with unfilled university places — will be the most hectic ever.

Diana Milner-Walker, admissions officer at Kingston University, said: "I am already getting calls from students who deferred their places until 1998 wanting to come this year instead. People are panicking." Department for Education officials are said to be "in panic mode" in spite of assurances from David Blunkett, *the Education Secretary*, that clearing will not be any more hectic than in previous years.

The Government announced last month that means-tested fees of £1,000 each year would be charged from 1998, and the maintenance grant phased out.

Schools are also bracing themselves. Richard Russell, director of studies at Sevenoaks School, Kent, said: "I am dreading what it is going to be like because there is not going to be much flexibility. Pressure for places in 1997 is clearly going to be stiffer than ever."

About half of the 32,000 A-level students who had the required grades but chose not go on to higher education last year are believed to be in the hunt for places this summer, as well as thousands from previous years.

The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) is running a series of urgent investigations to gauge the potential impact on clearing. *Around 295,000* places are available and are being chased by 350,000 candidates. Tony Higgins, its chief executive, warned students not to rush into unsuitable courses for the sake of avoiding fees. "*Clearing always seems* fraught, but it works."

"No-one knows if he is at university or if he's taking a year off"

Cricket catches idea from baseball

By Simon Wilde

ENGLISH cricket will embrace ideas from football and American sport in an attempt to revitalise flagging standards and a lack of success at international level, if a revolutionary overhaul of the game is approved next month.

The plans were put before the first-class county clubs at Lord's yesterday. Under them the county championship, which has remained largely unchanged since it was first formally organised 107 years ago, would be divided next year into three "conferences" of six teams, *with end-of-season play-offs* as happens in baseball.

In the following year there would be an FA Cup-style knockout one-day competition involving 60 teams — counties and national *sides from, for example*, Scotland, Ireland, Denmark and Holland.

There would also be a one-day National League, with promotion and relegation between two divisions *and scope to play matches* — under floodlights if desired — on any day of the week, as does the Premiership.

The proposals were unveiled by Lord Maclaurin of Knebworth, the chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board, and met with a generally favourable response from the county executives, who will vote on them in six weeks' time.

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Plane carrying 257 crashes in jungle

By Bronwen Maddox and Giles Whittell

A KOREAN AIR Boeing 747 jet with 257 people on board crashed and burst into flames in jungle five miles from the airport in Guam last night. Unconfirmed reports said there were 29 survivors.

The plane had reported engine difficulties shortly before the crash which happened in rainy weather, Andrew Murphy of the Guam Airport Authority said. There was an extensive fire after the aircraft hit the ground.

Flight 801 from Seoul, South Korea, to Guam had been cleared to land when contact was lost. The aircraft — a Boeing 747-300, delivered in 1984 — was three miles from Agana International Airport, said Tom Rea, the US Federal *Aviation Administration's* Pacific representative in Honolulu. It was early Wednesday, Guam time.

Frank Matane of Guam Police said that 29 people apparently survived. He said *the plane went down* "in rough terrain, up in the hills". Wreckage had been spotted strewn in the rugged jungle area.

There were immediate questions about whether the rain contributed to the crash.

A large US Navy helicopter was ferrying survivors from the crash site and a second helicopter was joining the rescue, said Lieutenant Thomas Robinson of the US Coast Guard.

Dr Michael Cruz of Guam Memorial Hospital said teams were standing by to receive any survivors.

Despite the presence of the hilly terrain on which flight 801 went down, Agana airport, on Guam's central west coast, is not considered difficult for landing even large jets, an airport spokesman said yesterday.

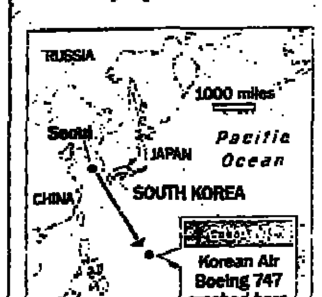
Korean Airlines (the original name of the airline) suffered one of the world's worst airline incidents in September 1 1983 when the Soviet Union shot down one of its 747 jets with 269 people aboard.

Guam, an American Pacific protectorate 3,700 miles southwest of Hawaii, and its airports have been a vital part of the American military presence in the western Pacific since before the Second World War and are now a popular destination among for tourists from the Far East.

With the end of the Cold War, tourism has emerged as the island's main industry, with increasing air traffic to it from Japan, Taiwan and South Korea.

There are at least two landings a day by 747 jets from Seoul Agana airport, an airport spokesman said yesterday.

With volcanoes on Guam's southern half but a level plateau to the north, this westernmost American possession was used as a springboard for the Allied counter-offensive against the Japanese in 1944 and for B52 bombing raids on Vietnam.



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ANDY PARSONS

An all-female litter of ten dalmatian puppies born in Ipswich. Half the litter have liver-coloured spots and the other half black dots. Their owners, Barbara and Terry Powell, believe that the number of bitches may be a record

Princess to meet landmine victims in Bosnia

By Emma Wilkins

DIANA, Princess of Wales, will meet landmine victims in the town of Travnik during her forthcoming visit to Bosnia, the American charity organising the trip said yesterday.

The Princess, who is expected to travel to Sarajevo in a privately-chartered plane tomorrow, will also visit Zenica. The trip is being organised by the Landmine Survivors Network, which helps amputees all over the world. It was founded two years ago by Ken Rutherford and Jerry White, both landmine victims.

"We have linked up with a local group of disabled people who we want the Princess to meet," said a spokesman for the charity. "There is no question of the Princess being in any danger." He said that the charity was delighted to have won her support.

Security for the Princess will be intense. Officials at the Foreign Office who were consulted [illegible] her plans, were adamant that she should not be taken to Banja Luka or Doboj whch are in Serb territory. There is Serb hostility to Britain after the SAS were involved in killing an alleged Serb war criminal who opened fire on them as they arrived to arrest him in Prijedor. Another alleged war criminal was held.

The visit also comes at a sensitive time in relations between Britain and Bosnia's three-man presidency based in Sarajevo. This week Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, cut off all contact with Mugdim Pasic, the Bosnian chargé d'affaires in London.

The Foreign Office said that the Princess's security was paramount. Last night a spokesman said: "Although this is a private visit, we welcome the Princess of Wales's involvement in the landmines issue. She has helped to highlight the suffering caused by anti-personnel landmines, and given impetus to international efforts to acheive an effective worldwide ban, to which the UK is fully committed.

"We are happy for the Princess to visit Bosnia-Herzegovina, subject to security considerations. We have undertaken a security assessment. Our advice at this stage to the Princess of Wales's office is to go ahead. But we are keeping the security situation under close review."

'Top people' say Charles should be free to wed

By Valerie Elliott
Whitehall Editor

THE Prince of Wales has the overwhelming backing of the country's "opinion formers", who believe he should be able to marry whoever he likes. They also believe it should make no difference if he were married to a divorcee and became king, and that he should still become Supreme Governor of the Church of England.

A survey for *The Times* from Opinion Leader Research, which polled a panel of 100 influential figures — including two Cabinet Ministers, MPs, peers, permanent secretaries, leading personalities in business and the City, newspaper editors and directors of various think-tanks — was extremely supportive of the Prince and his relationship with Camilla Parker Bowles.

The remarks of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, in Australia yesterday appeared to have little impact on the views of leading opinion formers. Dr Carey warned the Prince he would plunge the Church of England into crisis if he sought to wed Mrs Parker Bowles. More than eight out of 10 — 82 per cent — of those questioned said he should not give up his right to the throne if he were to remarry and 83 per cent said he should remarry whoever he liked.

Only 25 per cent disagreed with the proposition that a future British monarch could marry a divorcee and remain Supreme Governor of the Church of England.

Half believed he could marry a divorcee, become king, and remain Supreme Governor of the Church of England, while 25 per cent have no view at all on the matter. This was the highest number of abstentions on any of the questions on the Prince and showed they really had no special concern about the issue.

Those questioned were unclear about the future status of any future wife. There has been some talk that if the Prince were to remarry he should have a morganatic arrangement where his new wife would not assume the title Queen and would live outside the public eye. This compromise has been denounced by constitutional experts as having no place in British law.

Yet in the survey, while 59 per cent said they did not think a future wife should automatically become Queen, 63 per cent said they would like a new wife to have an official public role. The Prince's friends were "delighted" with the findings last night although the Prince has made no indication of any intention of marrying Mrs Parker Bowles. Senior members of the Privy Council are also now convinced that there is no real objection to the Prince remarrying Mrs Parker Bowles if he wishes.

The reticence at the time of the separation and divorce — with the John Major insisting that the Prince should make clear he had no intention of remarrying — was understood to have been to protect the Princess, Prince William and Prince Harry.

It was feared that a decision by the Prince to remarry in haste might have provoked a dramatic reaction from the Princess. One senior Whitehall source said last week: "That view has now passed."

Church 'crisis' over Prince

Continued from page 1

have views on the Prince of Wales and the future of the monarchy, but now is not the right time to start debating this issue."

According to Lord St John of Fawsley, the constitional expert, it is "premature" to raise the issue. He said that public acceptance that the Prince of Wales might remarry one day is growing, and the Church's stance on the issue need not be immutable. He added: "It would raise no constitutional issue if the Prince decided to remarry because his succession to the throne derives from the Act of Settlement and not from his marital status."

Dr Carey's comments, although delivered in an unguarded moment during a news conference, are the strongest he has made on the subject and certainly represent his true views on the subject.

Foreign Office rules out legal action over Patten

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

THE Foreign Office security investigation into Chris Patten, the former Governor of Hong Kong, will recommend that no action is taken. Senior Whitehall sources said last night that the inquiry, which was ordered by Sir John Coles, the Permanent Secretary, would not propose prosecution.

The disclosure comes only 24 hours after the Government maintained that it had ordered the investigation because of the seriousness of the leak. It also emerged that more than a week after the inquiry was set up, Mr Patten has not been contacted by the Foreign Office about the claims that he passed classified documents to Jonathan Dimbleby, the broadcaster and author. Mr Dimbleby, who is alleged to have used the material in his book *The Last Governor*, has also not been approached.

The first that the two men knew about an investigation was when they were contacted on Saturday by *The Sunday Times*. A friend of Mr Dimbleby said last night: "He has emphatically not had an approach from the Foreign Office or any agency of the Government."

The Tories seized on the disclosure as further evidence that the inquiry details had been disclosed by aides of Tony Blair to divert attention from Robin Cook's marriage break-up and the investigation into the suicide note of a Labour MP, which blamed senior colleagues for a whispering campaign. The Patten story came at the end of a week in which the Labour Party had failed, as expected, to win the Uxbridge by-election.

A senior Tory said: "We were told yesterday it was a matter of utmost seriousness. We are told the following day it is such a grave issue neither of the people at the centre of the investigation has been contacted. It was a deliberate attempt to smear Chris Patten to manipulate the news."

Mr Dimbleby, interviewed on Radio 4's *Today* programme, did not answer directly when asked if Mr Patten had leaked secret documents to him. "I have made it very clear that I had lots of conversations with Chris Patten, lots of conversations with other people, and I had lots of conversations on confidential terms with those people."

Leading article, page 17

Share sale

Continued from page 1

Last week Mr Blair told the Commons during exchanges with William Hague, the Tory leader, that the campaign was "vile and scurrilous".

John Redwood, the Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, who led the campaign, said last night that it had been justified by Lord Simon's announcement.

"This is an incredible U-turn. Until now we had been told the earliest date was January 1998. By agreeing to sell his shares in BP the minister and the Government have acknowledged that we were right," he said.

The Tories will now turn up the heat on Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade, who in a series of written Commons answers, had maintained that there was no possibility of the shareholding being reviewed until January 1.

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BP results, page 23

Labour activists say no to Paisley outsider

By Gillian Bowditch
Scotland Correspondent

LABOUR activists in Paisley South have voiced fears that the party leadership will impose an outside candidate to fight the by-election made necessary by the suicide of Gordon McMaster.

Despite having a long history of in-fighting, the safe Labour seat is seen as prize catch and will attract a list of strong applicants. But activists are concerned that they will be forced to accept someone with no local connection. Labour's by-election defeat in Uxbridge last week was blamed on the decision to replace the general election candidate, David Williams, a local man, with Andrew Slaughter.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, is known to favour his former aide, Douglas Alexander, a 29-year-old solcitor who has twice fought Perth and Kinross for Labour.

One local party member said: "Douglas fought a good fight in Perth but he is a boy being sent in to to do a man's job. He will be eaten alive in Paisley South. There are fears that Gordon Brown will use his influence to promote him."

A spokesman for the Scottish Labour Party said that the selection procedure would be the one used in every by-election. "Candidates will apply and the National Executive Committee's by-election committee will draw up a shortlist to put to the local constituency party, which will make the final decision."

But the Paisley South activist said: "It all depends whether it is Douglas Alexander and two no-hopers or Douglas Alexander and two strong contenders."

Mr Alexander's main rival for the seat is likely to be Pat McFadden, Tony Blair's special adviser on constitutional affairs. Senior Labour sources said that if he applied he would probably win the selection contest.

Other contenders are Jack McConnell, general secretary of the Scottish Labour Party, Mr Alexander's sister Wendy, a special adviser to the Scottish Secretary, and Hugh Henry, leader of Renfrewshire Council.

Ulster tops millennium spending chart

By Damian Whitworth

MORE than twice as much money is being spent per head of the population on celebrating the millennium in Northern Ireland than any region of England.

Wales and Scotland are also well ahead of England in securing funding for projects, according to figures released yesterday. Northern Ireland has been granted more than £46 per head of population by the Millennium Commission. Wales has almost £35, and Scotland £30. The worst-off region is the East Midlands has less than £6 a head, while the South East has about £8 and London £16, although this did not take into account the £400 million towards the New Millennium Experience at Greenwich. One reason for the disparity has been the huge role played by European Union regional development funds in providing cash to match that from the Commission.

More affluent regions do not have such money available and so fewer proposals have been forthcoming. Attempts to create a more even spread of funding with the third and final batch of capital projects, due to be announced in the autumn, are in doubt amid fears about the amount of cash left in the Commission's budget to fund them. It is locked in talks with the Department of Culture following the Government's decision to reduce its portion of the lottery money by setting up a sixth "good cause" of healthy lifetyles and extra school activities.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hume may agree to stand for president

The race for Ireland's presidency may be over before it has started. Dublin's two biggest political parties have approached John Hume about standing, and the most popular politician on the island is leaning towards accepting. If Mr Hume, leader of Northern Ireland's nationalist Social Democratic and Labour party, does allow his name to go forward neither Fianna Fail nor Fine Gael would put up candidates against him, meaning the 60-year-old Catholic from Londonderry would almost certainly be elected unopposed. That would make him the Irish Republic's first northern president.

"I would be a super salesman for Ireland, trying to bring investment and jobs here," Mr Hume was quoted as saying in the same *New York Times* interview in which he said he was leaning towards accepting. Mr Hume's problem is that the presidency would prevent him playing a direct role in the full-scale peace negotiations beginning in Belfast on September 15 that he has done more than anyone to promote. However nationalists in Belfast yesterday did not regard that obstacle as insuperable. Mrs Robinson is resigning the presidency on September 12.

Cook praises 'noble' wife

Robin Cook issued a statement last night saying that he had behaved badly towards his wife, Margaret, whom he has left for his Commons secretary, Gaynor Regan. The Foreign Secretary said that Mrs Cook had behaved nobly, in contrast to his actions. On Monday Mrs Cook, a consultant haemotologist, said in a statement: "Whatever my husband's private life may have been, he has always been a very good Member of Parliament and is a very good Foreign Secretary." Mr Cook is understood to have wanted to "draw a civilised line" under the events of the previous two days by responding in kind to what he saw as a generous statement from his wife.

Letters, page 17

Appeal to train drivers

South West Trains is offering its drivers £250 a day to cancel their summer holidays and solve staff shortages that threaten cancellations on commuter services into Waterloo station, London. The company is anxious to avoid a repeat of its winter problems, when 2,000 trains were cancelled between February and April after too many drivers were made redundant. The 680 drivers could earn up to £4,000 if they work a marathon six-week session, taking only three days off — the equivalent of a 16 per cent pay rise. The company said the problem was a legacy from holidays booked under the British Rail rota system, which was scrapped in February.

Bank recruits 'children'

The banking union Bifu has condemned Midland Bank for recruiting the teenage children of staff to overcome a shortage of part-time workers in holiday periods. An internal Midland memo, a copy of which has been seen by *The Times*, calls on branch managers in the Newcastle area to "suggest that you consider recruiting the teenage children (age 16+) of your staff, who are still in education". The memo says that the teenagers could be paid £5.44 an hour and be trained as cashiers. A Midland spokesman said: "This has been going on for years and has proved to be very popular, with some young people moving on to join the bank full-time."

Mothers' Union barred

A vicar has closed his parish's branch of the Mothers' Union because the organisation's national magazine *Home & Family* published an article by the mother of a homosexual and refused his request for an article expressing "traditional" views. Elderly members at St Simon's, Southsea, wept when they were told the news. In the past the Rev Ted Pratt has also spoken against Church moves to welcome cohabitees, and attacked soap operas for lowering moral standards. Margaret Symonds, president of the Portsmouth diocesan Mothers' Union, said: "We have the feeling that there has been a lack of compassion here."

Peter Collingridge

A report, "Fireman's pole death" (yesterday), stated that Peter Collingridge, 70, was found dying after apparently trying to slide down a pole at Chester fire station. In fact, the circumstances of his death are unclear and an inquest will be held.

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Clinton bans federal workers from smoking on office doorsteps

Sign of the times

FROM IAN BRODIE
IN WASHINGTON

NIPPING outside for a quick cigarette will no longer be feasible for American government workers under a decree to be signed by President Clinton.

It will ban people from lighting up around the entrances to federal buildings, a practice that has grown in reaction to the steady increase of no-smoking offices. Most government buildings in Washington have knots of smokers taking a break from work to sneak a few quick drags on the doorstep. Their presence is often marked by a litter of cigarette ends.

Now that is to end under the broadest smoking ban on federal property ever enforced. It will also extend to many places currently exempt, including clubs for military officers. Mr Clinton has been under pressure to sign the executive order from anti-smoking members of Congress, who complain that non-smokers should not have to experience passive inhalation on the way through entrances.

Just how far smokers will be banished from doorways was unclear, but 50ft was mentioned in an early draft of the new policy. "Moving 50ft would put me in the middle of the road, so I'll stand there and be hit by a car," grumbled Ken McMillon through a cloud of smoke outside the Veterans Administration building.

Equally upset was Nikiesha Lucas, who works in a gift shop at the Justice Department, where presumably the new law would be rigorously enforced. She said, "They really have some ridiculous laws. I have a very stressful job. I don't smoke but three cigarettes a day, and I need them."

The prohibition on outdoor smoking was labelled unfair by the Tobacco Institute, the cigarette manufacturers' lobbying arm. Its spokesman, Thomas Lauria, said the ban was unjustified by any evidence of harm to non-smokers in the open air, and "if we start banning all behaviour that annoys one another we're going to be a straitjacket society before you know it".

Mr Clinton, an occasional cigar smoker, was persuaded by his wife, Hillary, to ban all smoking in the White House when he was first elected, but he never cracked down on the patchwork of smoking rules among other branches of government. His new decree will set a standard no-smoking policy, with rare exceptions such as rooms with separate ventilation systems.

Clinton: a cigar smoker

ALAN WELLER

City firms set the lead in banning open-air smokers

Employers are telling staff that it is presenting a bad image, reports **Mark Henderson**

BRITISH companies which ban smoking in the office are preventing their employees from going out to the entrance steps for a cigarette, or even to the car park.

Growing numbers of City institutions, hospitals and factories are banning smoking outside their premises, and some employees have been sacked for smoking on the doorstep. Tolerance is wearing particularly thin in the City of London, where merchant banks, insurance houses and trade exchanges say that it presents the wrong image to clients.

Assicurazioni Generali, the Italian insurance broker with offices in Fenchurch Street, London, displays a prominent sign in its doorway warning off the smokers. A spokesman for the firm said: "It's a case of obstruction. We have people coming in and out all day long. If the door is blocked up by smokers, it's a real problem. We have a no-smoking office. Employees are free to leave for a smoke as long as they don't do it right outside."

At Walsingham House, in Seething Street, which is owned by the Prudential, a sign warns employees: "Strictly no smoking on front entrance steps". The Stock Exchange, the London Metal Exchange (LME) and the futures exchange, Liffe, all provide small smoking areas for their traders and clerks, but encourage staff not to smoke outside the building. "You don't want a bunch of grubby traders hanging around outside puffing away," said an LME spokesman. "It presents entirely the wrong image."

LME employees, though, were taking little notice yesterday of the exchange's policy on smoking outside the Leadenhall Street buliding. One clerk said that she usually smoked in the smoking room but had been driven outside by broken air conditioning: "It's pretty disgusting in there when it is hot."

A colleague said: "I know it doesn't look good, but I've got to have a fag."

The merchant bank Kleinwort Benson Investment Management allows smoking in the office only after 6pm, has no designated smoking room, and bans its staff from smoking near the building. Kevin John, a computer engineer, said: "If you need a fag, everyone goes to a little alleyway behind the building. The bank hates the idea of clients having to fight their way through a bunch of smokers."

Some employers also say that smoking outside wastes time, and makes employees hard to find in an emergency. Most hospitals have banned outdoor smoking for this reason. The Stobhill Hospital in Glasgow and the Carlisle NHS Trust reversed smoking bans within the hospitals, providing designated smoking rooms, because they found it impossible to find staff, patients and visitors who had left for a cigarette.

Several workers have been dismissed for smoking outdoors. Lee Shaw, a factory worker with Ashton Foods in Manchester, was sacked in May after he was caught smoking in a no-smoking car park. A carer at an old people's home in Newark, Nottinghamshire, lost her job last year when she was accused of smoking outside when smoking was banned throughout the grounds.

The campaign group Action on Smoking and Health (Ash) believes that smokers' needs should be catered for in an office environment. "Smoking outside sends out the wrong image, but it should not be necessary if smokers had proper designated areas inside their offices."

Marjorie Nicholson, director of the smokers' rights group Forest, said that firms could not stop workers smoking on public streets. "I can understand that smokers clustered in a doorway can look bad, but until they give us an alternative there is little option. It is unfair to stop smoking outside when they give us no facilities inside. There is usually a blanket ban or a pokey, smelly hole they call a smoking room."

Two smokers taking a quick break outside their offices in the City of London yesterday. Companies say the practice is bad for their image

Roadside fumes are as bad as cigarettes

MEDICAL BRIEFING

PRESIDENT Clinton's ban on smoking on government property, even by staff outside their offices, is presumably motivated in the main by concern for their health and for that of passers-by. He may also feel that state employees standing around smoking give a bad impression.

It has been suggested that smokers should be 50ft from doorways before lighting up. However, research by Dr Jan Polniecki, of St George's Hospital Medical School, London, has suggested that up to 6,000 deaths a year from heart disease may be the result of exposure to car exhausts, and that one in 50 heart attacks treated by London cardiologists is caused by car fumes. It would appear that if smokers are encouraged to smoke by the roadside, they may be getting a double dose of carbon monoxide: 90 per cent of the carbon monoxide in the urban atmosphere comes from vehicles, and the highest concentrations are at the roadside.

Carbon monoxide so interferes with the efficient transport of oxygen around the body that neither brain and heart may receive enough. Cigarette smoking increases the level of carbon monoxide in the blood so much that the level can indicate how deeply a smoker inhales.

Clinical experience supports the President's decision. Research among Dutch harbour pilots showed that even non-smokers with heart disease developed angina after sitting in smoke-filled huts. People with heart disease, although non-smokers, experience chest pain when sharing a car with heavy smokers.

Office workers who smoke by the road and whose coronary arteries are so narrowed that the heart muscle is already suffering from lack of oxygen may develop angina. Higher carbon monoxide levels may cause headaches and drowsiness among those who had thought themselves fit.

However, the advantages of taking a few minutes' relaxing break from the computer screen have to be balanced against the hazards of an additional cigarette for the habitual smoker.

The President should encourage the fitting of vehicle exhausts that reduce emissions of carbon monoxide.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

Week in jail for puffing drunk

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A DRUNK man who blew smoke into a woman's face when she asked him to put out his cigarette at a London Underground station was jailed for seven days for assault yesterday. Abdi Saeed, 43, also patted Sanra Book on the bottom with his umbrella when she turned to walk away from him.

"You were drunk and smoking a cigarette on the platform of Earls Court station, and a member of the public properly pointed out that you were not allowed to smoke there," the stipendiary magistrate, Geoffrey Breen, told Saeed, a Somali immigrant, at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court.

He went on: "As unhappily so often happens these days, instead of apologising and putting out your cigarette, you blew smoke into that lady's face and then, as she turned away to leave you, you struck her twice with your umbrella. Whilst I accept that no injury was caused, that lady must have been very frightend and distressed by what you did."

Mr Breen added that Saeed had been drunk and Miss Book had been on her own: "The offence is so serious that only a custodial sentence can be justified."

Saeed, of Ealing, west London, who has not worked since coming to Britain with his wife and two children in 1993, admitted common assault on Miss Book, 25, who lives in West Kensington and works as a waitress. He also admitted breaking the London Underground smoking ban during the incident at about 5pm on August 3.

Saeed, whose wife left him shortly after they arrived in England, was said to be living on £70-a-week income support and sickness benefit. "He is separated from his wife and, indeed, therein lies the problem," said Patrick O'Callaghan, in mitigation, adding that Saeed began drinking after the split.

Rice pudding a greater risk

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

SCIENTIFIC evidence used to justify smoking bans in the workplace, let alone outside the office door, is very weak.

The action taken by President Clinton is largely based on a report by the US Environmental Protection Agency that shows a 19 per cent increase in lung cancer among non-smokers exposed to other people's smoke. This increase, though it sounds impressive, is so small that, if it were caused by any other factor, it would be dismissed as insignificant.

Other studies have shown that eating certain foods, even rice pudding, poses a far greater risk of lung cancer than passive smoking, or have failed to find any increased risk and have not been published. Among those that have, some show an increased risk and some do not.

Epidemiologists express increased risk in terms of a "risk ratio". Any figure greater than one implies an increased risk. Lumping all the published data together, the Environmental Protection Agency came up with a risk ratio of 1.19. But such are the uncertainties of this kind of science that risk ratios of less than two are regarded as insignificant.

A recent study carried out in Uruguay and published in the *International Journal of Cancer* found that people who consumed large amounts of dairy products, including rice pudding and milk, were more than four times as likely to develop lung cancer.

Judy Buttriss, of the National Dairy Council, pointed out that other studies on breast cancer had shown a reduced, rather than increased, risk. "The difficulty of establishing after the event exactly what a person's diet was, and being sure that none was a smoker, makes studies like those unreliable."

Even if the results are right, the extra risk in real terms is small. The chances of a non-smoker getting lung cancer are one in 10,000.

Non-smoking rice pudding eaters, if the study is right, run a risk of three in 10,000 — still a very small absolute risk. But it is far, far greater than the supposed risk run by passive smokers.

Life for alcoholic who killed boy

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

AN ALCOHOLIC was jailed for life yesterday for beating a four-year-old boy to death with a hammer.

James Reid, 59, denied murdering James Ward, from the Castlemilk area of Glasgow, but was convicted at the High Court in the city after the jury heard that police had discovered a trail of blood to his flat. Despite evidence that the boy's blood was found on his spectacles and trousers, Reid denied all knowledge of the attack and blamed his two dogs for smearing the blood on him when they brushed up against him.

The court heard that James disappeared while he was being looked after by his great-grandmother, Grace Boyle, 62, at her home in Castlemilk on February 11 this year.

Mrs Boyle and her sister, Margaret Stewart, discovered his body lying in the courtyard at the back of the flats. His skull had been badly damaged.

While ambulance staff tried unsuccessfully to revive him, police who arrived on the scene followed a trail of blood over the garden wall across Reid's lawn and on to his back doorstep. Reid, who lived next door to Mrs Stewart, had been unemployed for 24 years. He had lived as a virtual recluse every since a conviction for breach of the peace and lewd conduct in the 1950s.

Inside the flat the police had to use torches as there were no lightbulbs. They discovered Reid covered in blood watching television, the floor around him strewn with empty sherry bottles and lager cans.

There was blood throughout the flat and Reid had made a half-hearted effort to clean it up. One of the boy's training shoes was found in a tea chest in his bedroom cupboard.

James Ward: beaten to death with hammer

Witnesses said Reid had been staggering drunkenly in the street, drinking alcohol just before James disappeared. Despite overwhelming evidence against him, Reid vehemently maintained that he knew nothing of the killing. In the witness box he said he would never hurt an animal, let alone a child, and detested violence.

Donald Findlay, QC, said that defending Reid was "an onerous" task. He said he was sorry that the answer to the question of why Reid, a man who lived quietly and bothered nobody, should commit such a murder would never be known.

A detective who investigated the case said later: "There is absolutely no clue as to why he killed this little boy. It is possible that the sheer horror of the crime has either blanked out his memory or made him too horrified to admit what he did."

After the trial James's father, James, and his mother, Amanda Stewart, called for the death penalty to be brought back.

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Diesel lorry fumes linked to cot deaths

Invisible soot particles are suspected of deeply penetrating lungs and causing blood clots. **Nick Nuttall** reports

COT deaths may be caused by pollution from traffic and industry. Scientists have found a strong link between "sudden infant death syndrome", which kills ten babies a week in Britain, and tiny particles in the air produced mainly by diesel exhaust fumes.

Yesterday, clean-air campaigners demanded urgent action by the Government to toughen standards on particulates, the flecks of invisible soot measuring under ten microns. The findings come after research indicating that up to 6,000 heart attacks a year are caused by air pollution.

Malcolm Eames of the National Society for Clean Air and Environmental Protection, whose members include scientists and local authority environmental health officers, said: "Taken together, these two studies provide strong evidence that air pollution from lorries and buses may cause ill health and even death in infants and young children. Current UK policies will not bring levels of this dangerous particle pollution down to safe levels even by 2005. It is essential that the review of the UK National Air Quality Strategy results in urgent action to tackle traffic pollution and protect public health."

A spokeswoman for the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths in London described the findings as significant and urged more research. "Although we need to examine the data more closely, this would seem to be an important finding in relation to infant death," she said.

"It supports previous research showing that pollution is linked with a wide range of infant respiratory problems and is in line with the strong research findings of a link between environmental tobacco smoke and cot death."

The findings have been made from a study of four million babies by researchers at the American Environmental Protection Agency in Washington and the National Centre for Health Statistics in Hyattsville, Maryland. The findings are published in the latest edition of *Environmental Health Perspective*.

The scientists studied babies born between 1989 and 1991 in 86 cities and towns across America, including Chicago, Cleveland, St Louis, Las Vegas and Detroit. They matched sudden infant death syndrome with levels of particles in the air in the areas where the babies, aged 27 days or older, were living. The team, led by Dr Tracy Woodruff of the Environmental Protection Agency, found that the death rate among babies born in areas of high soot or particle levels was 10 per cent higher than in low particle areas.

The researchers adjusted their findings to reflect the social and economic backgrounds of the families, their smoking habits and whether the infant had a low birth weight that might increase risk of premature death.

The researchers say: "While further examination is needed, the results ... suggest that continued attention must be paid to the nation's air quality to ensure optimal health of infants and children."

The way in which particles may cause death and ill health is being studied by experts. Last year Professor Anthony Seaton of Aberdeen University, a health quality adviser to the Government, suggested in *The Lancet* that fine soot particles penetrated deep into the lungs and triggered a reaction similar to an infection. Blood passing through the lungs thickens, causing clots and blocks in the lungs and circulatory system.

Professor Seaton said yesterday that the theory was gaining credibility following research in Germany. Laboratory trials were underway on animals. "I think we are going to be proved right," he said.

Auntie finds a bit of fluff goes a very long way

By Carol Midgley, media correspondent

THE BBC appears to have acted on a suggestion that serious programmes should have a "fluffy" element to popularise them.

Flagship shows such as *Everyman* and *Omnibus* will next month feature the likes of Vic Reeves, Bob Mortimer, Ulrika Jonsson and a host of Elvis Presley lookalikes as part of the corporation's apparent drive to entice a younger audience.

Lumley: Bhutan visit

The *Absolutely Fabulous* actress Joanna Lumley will also star in a factual series about the kingdom of Bhutan, one of the most isolated countries in the world. Michael Palin, named recently by the BBC as one of a handful of presenters who can command large audiences for serious travel programmes, features in *Full Circle*, which follows him 50,000 miles through 18 Pacific Rim countries.

Last month, a leaked BBC report expressed concern that global issues were passing much of the viewing public by. It advocated that populist figures, namely Reeves and Mortimer, Chris Evans, Gaby Roslin and Jonsson, should be considered as presenters for world programmes to draw in larger audiences.

It also listed Clive James, Clive Anderson, Sir David Attenborough and Palin as personalities who could attract people to programmes set in a foreign country.

Michael Palin, seen as one of a handful of presenters able to draw large audiences for serious travel programmes, in Chile for *Full Circle*

Yesterday, at the launch of BBC1's autumn schedule, Alan Yentob, director of television at the BBC, denied the programmes constituted a lowering of standards of serious programmes or that there was a wholesale drive to enlist populist presenters.

He said: "We are looking for a broad range of programmes across the board which add things to the schedule, things that people want and what they watch. These popular figures can draw people sometimes to subjects which are less popular."

In the arts programme *Omnibus*, the comedy duo Reeves and Mortimer are followed from their earliest days to their highly successful television shows, *Big Night Out* and *Shooting Stars*. The programme features Jonathan Ross, Mark Lamarr, Jim Davidson and Terry Jones.

Elvis and the Presleytarians features in the religious documentary series, *Everyman*, and focuses on Elvis disciples who either refuse to believe he is dead or who worship him as the Son of God.

In the Joanna Lumley programme, *Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon*, the actress is followed on an expedition through the Himalayas between India and Tibet, where temperatures regularly drop below freezing. Ms Lumley tells the camera: "My only concession to getting undressed is to take off my bra!"

Earlier this week the veteran BBC foreign editor, John Simpson, somewhat jokingly advocated the use of glamorous presenters on television. He said: "It's true. Viewers want bimboys and bimbettes. Who wants to see Martyn Lewis? I don't."

BBC stands by decision to screen IRA series

By Our Media Correspondent

THE BBC denied that it was being politically insensitive yesterday by screening a four-part history of the IRA to coincide with the all-party peace talks in Northern Ireland.

Provos: The IRA and Sinn Fein, to be screened next month, features interviews with declared killers and FBI surveillance film of terrorists trying to buy Stinger missiles in New York in the 1980s. Steve Hewlett, the editor of *Panorama* who is in charge of the project, said it was not designed to cause controversy around the talks, which begin on September 15. He said the programme would be pulled if circumstances rendered it "inappropriate".

The series, which traces the rise of the Provisional IRA and Sinn Fein from 1969 to the present, claims unprecedented access to the Provisionals. It is presented by Peter Taylor, a journalist who has covered the conflict for more than 25 years.

Mr Hewlett insisted that no active IRA members were interviewed for the film. He said: "We have not sought interviews with people currently active in the IRA but it is not an open organisation; people do not wear badges and there is a distant possibility that some were not telling the truth. But if we knew they were active, we wouldn't use them."

Firms foil plan for red light zone

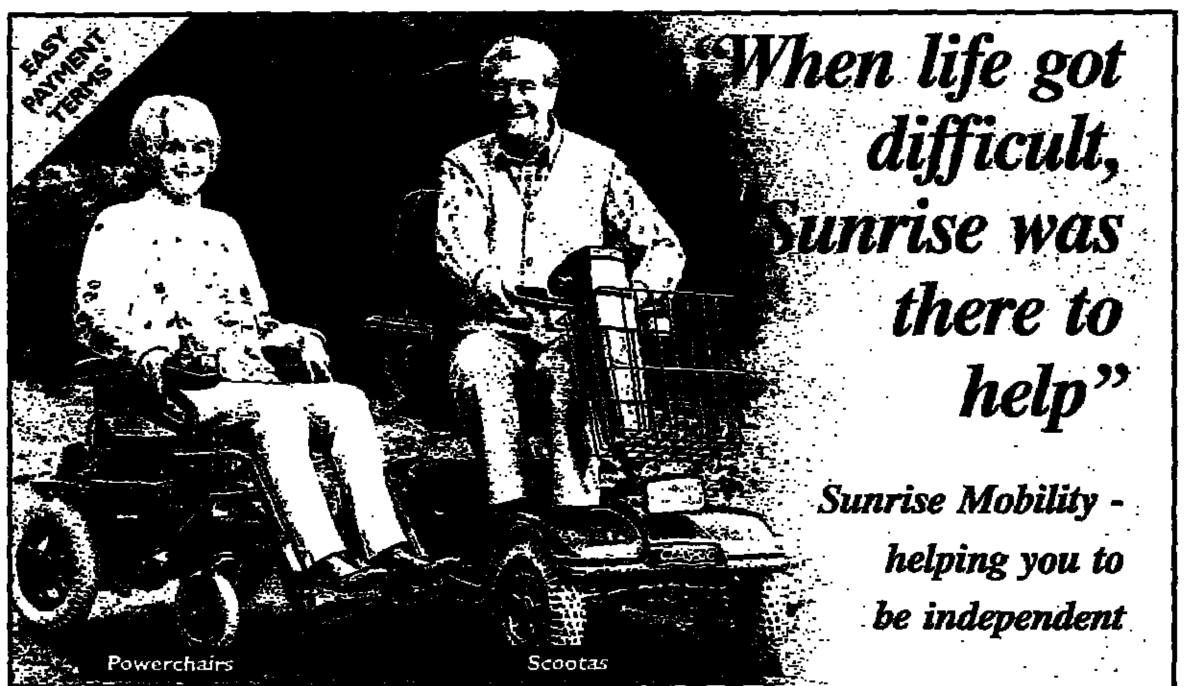
By Paul Wilkinson

PLANS to set up Britain's first official red light district have been scrapped after complaints from businesses.

Officials had wanted to establish a "tolerance zone" in the commercial district of Shalesmoor in Sheffield in an effort to end years of complaints about the activities of the prostitutes and kerb-crawlers in a neighbouring residential area. They had hoped the prostitutes would move in only after the office workers had finished for the day. But when details of the zone leaked last week scores of businesses and professional groups warned the city council that they would move out, taking thousands of jobs away from Sheffield.

Yesterday the Sheffield Forum on Prostitution formally agreed to drop its plan. The forum, whose members come from the council, the police, health authority and other public services as well as representatives of the prostitutes, said: "It is not an idea worth pursuing."

Those who objected included the Crown Prosecution Service, the fashion designer Julia Gash and Midland Bank, the city's biggest employer.



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Soldiers banned from resort after attack on tourists

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU
IN LARNACA

HUNDREDS of British troops were banned yesterday from the Cypriot resort of Ayia Napa after four soldiers appeared in court accused of beating up two tourists.

The young British holidaymakers were attacked as they left a disco with their girlfriends in the early hours of Saturday, just a month after the Army had lifted a ban on troops visiting Ayia Napa. One of the men needed 22 stitches in his battered face. His friend has undergone a three-hour operation on a broken jaw.

Air Vice Marshal Peter Millar, the Commander British Forces, banned the whole of the 1st Battalion, the King's Regiment, to which the accused soldiers belong. That means the bulk of the Army's 3,500 uniformed personnel and 430 Ministry of Defence civilians and their dependents — 8,900 in total — can continue to visit the town.

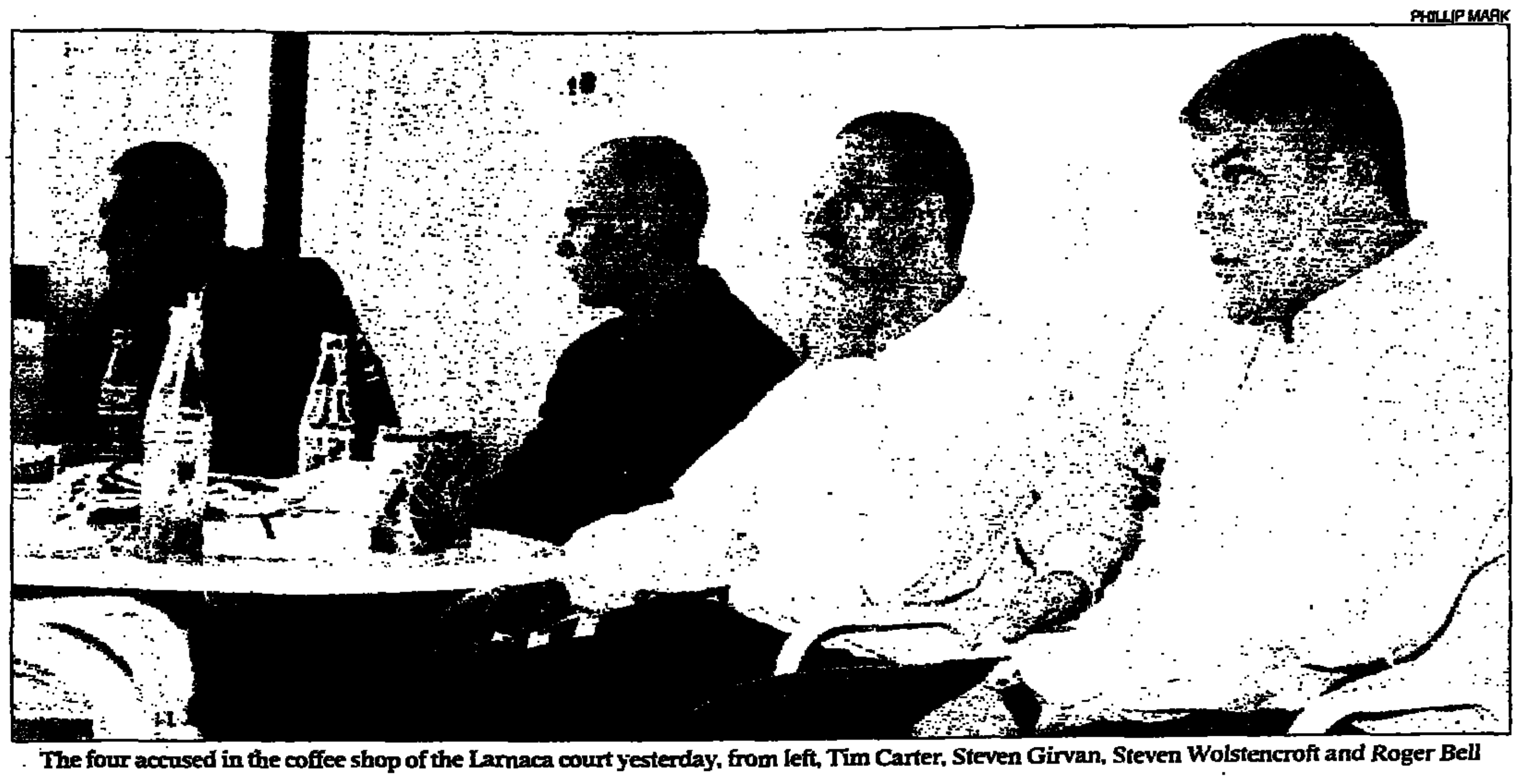
Barry Ford, who had 22 stitches in his face

Roger Bell, 26, Tim Carter, 20, Steven Wolstencroft, 26, and Steven Girvan, 20, were released on bail until tomorrow after the judge at the Larnaca court granted their Cypriot lawyer's request for a two-day adjournment to study the case. The four soldiers, shaven-headed and dressed in civilian clothes, said nothing during the brief hearing.

Watching in court were Barry Ford, 23, and his girlfriend, Claire Harbour, 22, both from Lee in southeast London. Mr Ford's face was heavily bruised, with stitches to wounds above his ear and eyes, which were bloodshot and nearly closed. His right arm was in plaster. His friend, Shane Bell, 23, a car mechanic from Eltham, southeast London, was still in hospital.

Mr Bell's mother, Claudette, said yesterday: "All I want is to have him home. Shane has got a fractured cheek bone and his jaw is wired up."

The four soldiers, stationed with their regiment at Dhekelia military base 20 miles from Ayia Napa, were charged with grievous bodily harm to the two men and actual bodily harm to Miss Harbour, who says that they badly bruised her wrist. If they are convicted and jailed they will automatically be dismissed from the Army.



PHILLIP MARK

The four accused in the coffee shop of the Larnaca court yesterday, from left, Tim Carter, Steven Girvan, Steven Wolstencroft and Roger Bell

After yesterday's hearing Mr Ford, a quantity surveyor, said: "It's amazing — soldiers are meant to be defenders of the realm, they are meant to protect us, not kick us senseless."

Miss Harbour, a nursery nurse, said that one of a group of eight soldiers had pinned her to the ground and made her watch as Mr Ford and Mr Bell were punched and kicked unconscious. "I thought Barry was dead," she said.

The couple, who were on a two-week holiday, said that they would fly home today but were willing to return to give evidence. They did not expect Mr Bell to be well enough to return with them.

Ayia Napa is the resort where three Royal Green Jackets had been drinking the night they sexually assaulted and battered to death a Danish tour guide three years ago. Army commanders declared the resort out of bounds to all British forces and the United Nations peacekeeping force but as discipline improved the ban was gradually reduced to a curfew and lifted on July 1.

The swift decision to impose an indefinite ban on the King's Regiment was seen as an attempt to prevent any backlash by the local community and to show that the Army is taking the incident seriously. Mervyn Wynne Jones, a spokesman for the British Bases in Cyprus, said the Army was making clear that drunken and loutish behaviour would not be tolerated although most troops had a good relationship with the community and a wider ban would not be considered.

But Dr Marios Matsakis, a parliamentarian and the former coroner who performed the post-mortem examination on the Danish tour guide, said the full ban should continue because British troops were "like animals" after a few drinks. "We're not learning from the past. There could easily be another murder."

Footballer fined £600 for pub sex assault

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE former England footballer Carlton Palmer was convicted yesterday of sexually assaulting a woman in a crowded bar. Palmer, who blamed the strain of the case for the loss of his place in the Leeds United team and the club captaincy, was fined £600 with £338 costs.

After the verdict at Leeds Magistrates' Court the player, who is reputed to earn £7,000 a week but is now on the transfer list, said he would appeal. David Loy, the stipendiary magistrate, announced his decision after a week of deliberation.

Palmer, 31, had denied indecently assaulting an 18-year-old woman last January in the Square on the Lane bar in Leeds. The woman said he had touched her between the legs.

Palmer is due back at the same court next week accused of assaulting a policeman on the same night. Mr Loy added: "As a result, it would be inappropriate for me to comment on the evidence heard in this case as it could have an effect on the forthcoming hearing."

A Leeds United spokesman said: "The club has been informed by Carlton Palmer that he has lodged an appeal against the court judgment. In light of this fact the club will reserve judgment on any disciplinary action."

Palmer: lost captaincy and place in Leeds team

Toddler killed by chest of drawers

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A BOY aged two suffocated under a chest of drawers when it fell on him, an inquest was yesterday. Jonathan Lewington had been climbing the 3ft chest in a bedroom at his grandparents' home.

Jonathan was staying with Teresa and Gordon Lewington at Ewshot, near Fleet, Hampshire, while his parents, from Nottingham, were in Japan looking for accommodation. His father works for ICI and was being transferred to Tokyo.

In a statement, Teresa Lewington told the hearing that Jonathan had woken at 5am and had played with his two brothers — Adam, 10, and Alex, 7 — until breakfast. "Jonathan was playing upstairs. Adam went upstairs to check on his younger brother and I heard him scream.

"We went to Jonathan's room. He was lying on his back with his eyes closed. I couldn't see him breathing and his chest wasn't moving.

"I could feel no pulse and started mouth-to-mouth resuscitation."

Her husband dialled the emergency services and Jonathan was taken by ambulance to Frimley Park Hospital, but died a day later after being transferred to St George's Hospital, Tooting. A post-mortem examination found that he had died from traumatic asphyxia.

WPC Michelle Smith told the inquest at Basingstoke that she had spoken to Adam immediately after the accident on May 5.

The boy told of finding Jonathan underneath the chest of drawers "trapped by his head in the bottom drawer up to his neck and shoulders — he started screaming and lifted the drawer. Jonathan's head fell out and he realised something was seriously wrong."

After hearing the evidence, Andrew Bradley, the North Hampshire Coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Men put women golfers to fore

BY EMMA WILKINS

MALE golfers would like more opportunities to play against women, according to a survey published today. Only 9 per cent of respondents thought that women and golf were incompatible.

The latest edition of *Fore!* magazine contains the results of a survey of 1,000 men aged 25 to 45. Paul Hamblin, editor of the magazine, was delighted with the results. "Golf has this reputation for being totally stupid and boring, where women aren't even allowed to walk in front of the clubhouse windows," he said.

"There is still the idea that women play golf during the week because they are nice middle-class housewives with time on their hands, while men play at the weekend. This survey shows that male golfers believe golf is a social thing for both sexes."

Mr Hamblin, whose magazine employs one woman among a staff of seven, said that many clubs remained stuck in the past because of their attitude towards women golfers.

"I'm not saying we're going to batter down the citadels of private golf clubs. But the 'women issue' is a fast-growing part of golf," he said.

The magazine asked about readers' attitudes towards women who play golf. A die-hard group of 9 per cent answered that women and golf were incompatible, while 26 per cent thought women golfers were "great" but too old. Sixteen per cent thought men could learn something from women while 49 per cent said they wished men and women could play together more often.

According to the Ladies Golf Union, there are 219,000 women golfers in Britain.

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MAGAZINE

Crushing defeat lies in wait for road-tax dodgers

Peter Foster sees the launch of a national drive to make the £175m cheats feel small

THE ultimate warning for car-tax dodgers went on display yesterday. A white Ford Sierra was fed into a crushing machine to publicise the fate in store for some of the cars whose owners currently evade a total of £175 million.

A tough new scheme to enforce road tax begins in London this month and will spread across the whole of Britain within a year. Untaxed cars will be clamped in the street and offenders will face fines of up to £1,000, with the final sanction of the car being sold or crushed for scrap if the owner does not retrieve it withing five weeks.

Baroness Hayman, the Roads Minister, watched the demonstration in a south London police yard and said: "Honest motorists are fed up with carrying the bill for the hard core who continually evade paying their road tax. Law-abiding motorists have nothing to fear."

A poster campaign showing a crushed vehicle will be used to raise awareness of the crackdown. Echoing the catchphrase of Clint Eastwood in *Dirty Harry*, it will carry the slogan: "Do you feel lucky, Dodger?"

The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency yesterday tried to calm fears that law-abiding citizens might return from a fortnight abroad to find their family saloon compressed into a block of tangled metal 4ft square. Haydn Madoc, head of enforcement for the agency, said: "We are not targeting motorists who are a few days late buying a new disc. Our records show clearly who are the persistent offenders and, if there is any doubt about a vehicle, the decision to sell or scrap it will be delayed."

The new measures begin in London on August 18. Groups of privately contracted wardens will patrol the streets looking for cars without valid tax discs. Using hand-held computers, they will be able to check with the agency's central database in Swansea before untaxed vehicles are clamped.

Drivers caught out by the scheme will initially be able to pay £68 to release their cars, and will be asked to produce a valid tax disc. Alternatively, car and motorcycle drivers can offer a £100 bond which will be paid back if a valid disc is produced within two weeks.

Vehicles left unclaimed after 24 hours will be towed away and impounded. The release fee then increases to £135, plus £12-per-day storage. After five weeks, the bill will have totalled more than £600, and unclaimed vehicles will be crushed or sold at auction if commercially viable.

The scheme is an extension of a successful pilot operation run in five London boroughs in February 1996, which recovered £2 million in unpaid tax. More than half the 500 vehicles clamped remained unclaimed and were sent to the crusher. The measures will be implemented nationwide, separately from local council parking controls, by the private firm Sureway Parking Services. The DVLA said that the company had signed a flat-rate contract and would not be working on commission.

Profits will be paid centrally to the Treasury. The Department of Transport said that it was too early to predict how much money would be raised, but it was confident of recovering a sizeable proportion of the millions lost each year to tax dodgers.

In last year's London pilot scheme, the Treasury recovered £6 for every £1 it invested in catching offenders. Any owners who believe they are being unfairly treated can appeal through their local magistrates' court.

The campaign has the backing of the motoring organisations. An AA spokeswoman said: "People who fail to pay their tax cost the Exchequer £175 million a year. These people are also less likely to have insurance, which puts £10 on the cost of policies for law-abiding motorists and is a danger to all road users."

TONY WHITE

Going nowhere: the remains of the Ford Sierra that was used to demonstrate the ultimate deterrent yesterday

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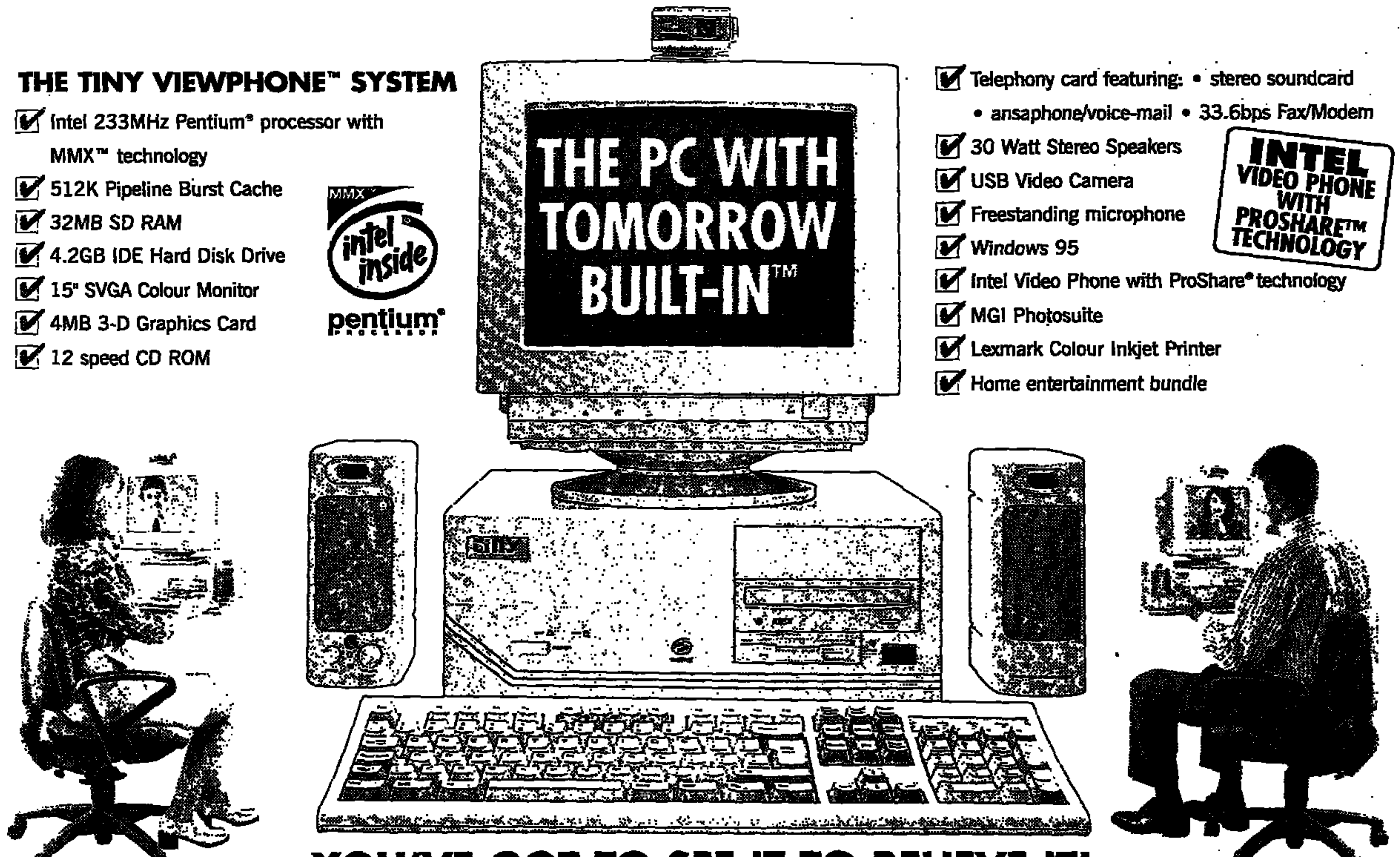

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Gas-cloud car runs without using fuel

By Nick Nuttall
Technology Correspondent

SCIENTISTS have invented a gas-powered car that does not burn fuel. The anti-pollution vehicle, which they have dubbed the smogmobile, turns compressed liquid nitrogen into an expanding gas. The resulting pressure turns an electric motor.

A prototype goes on view at San Diego, California, tomorrow. Abe Hertzberg of Washington University, who is leading the project, said that as the atmosphere is 78 per cent nitrogen, even millions of smogmobiles on the roads would be virtually undetectable in environmental terms.

"We believe a liquid nitrogen vehicle can match the performance and range of an electric car," he said.

The prototype does only a fifth of a mile to a gallon of liquid nitrogen. Professor Hertzberg is working on a more efficient system that will do up to three miles. With a 100-gallon tank, the car would do 250 miles between fill-ups. The professor says the tank would weigh less than the batteries used in electric cars.

Battery-powered cars involve emissions from the power stations where electricity is generated to recharge them. Lead-acid batteries also have a range of only 70-90 miles and threaten to increase heavy-metal pollution from manufacture and disposal.

Newer nickel-metal hydrie and lithium-ion batteries offer better range and performance but are expensive and potentially dangerous, it is claimed.

Professor Hertzberg, whose research is backed by the US Department of Energy, said: "You would have to work very hard to hurt yourself with a liquid nitrogen vehicle. It is not combustible, toxic or corrosive. It is just cold."

Drink and drive limit may be cut to one pint

By Polly Newton

A GOVERNMENT minister confirmed yesterday that the drink-driving limit could be cut by almost half to the equivalent of one pint of beer. Baroness Hayman, the Roads Minister, said that a reduction was "certainly an option".

She told the Radio 4 *Today* programme: "What we have got to look at is the fact that in this country we have had a lot of success with drink-driving campaigns — but there is still a hard core of offenders who are way over the limit and causing a lot of death and destruction."

Lady Hayman said she was looking at a range of options to improve road safety. "Several other countries have recently reduced their blood alcohol limits. We are looking carefully at the results of that because we want to be sure that what we do is effective and we would need to consult very carefully."

The current limit is 80 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millitres of blood — said to allow most people to drink about two pints. That could be reduced to 50 milligrams, or one pint, with the change possibly coming into effect before Christmas.

Most publicans and restaurateurs are likely to oppose the move on the ground that it would discourage people from going out. They argue that many drivers will opt to drink at home instead.

Nor is the change supported wholeheartedly by motoring organisations. A spokesman for the RAC said it was not certain to cut accidents or reduce the incidence of drink-driving.

Last year, 780,000 drivers were asked to take breath tests in England and Wales. Just over one in eight — 13 per cent — were either over the limit or refused to take it.

Climate change puts plant at risk

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE decline of one of Britain's tiniest plants is providing clues about the pace of climatic change.

Iceland Purslane — "think of the smallest plant you know and then divide by ten", said the Warwick University botanist Dr Barry Meatyard — is now found in only two places in Britain, the Isle of Skye and the Ardmeanach peninsula on Mull.

Dr Meatyard, who has been monitoring the plant on Mull, has found that since 1994 it has declined rapidly, in one area by 80 per cent. The environment is pesticide-free and remote from human influence, so the decline of the plant must be linked to changes in the weather or climate, he believes.

Iceland Purslane is unusual among Arctic plants in being an annual, so that its abundance is determined by its success in germinating in the spring.

Common in Iceland, Norway and other northern countries, it is at the southern limit in Scotland but has probably survived there since the last glaciation more than 10,000 years ago.

The past few springs have been extremely dry on Mull, Dr Meatyard said. Whether that has anything to do with climate change, or was merely a temporary shift in weather patterns, would require longer study.

"It's too early to say that Iceland Purslane is doomed to extinction in Britain. But if this weather pattern persists it will soon become a question of how long it can hang on."

The plant lives in gravel terraces, growing to a maximum height of 4cm. The flowers are 2mm across, making it, Dr Meatyard admitted, "a spectacularly insignificant plant".

Its decline may not cause widespread alarm because few people have ever seen it growing in Britain. The Iceland Purslane belongs to the same family as docks, and the larger varieties are used as

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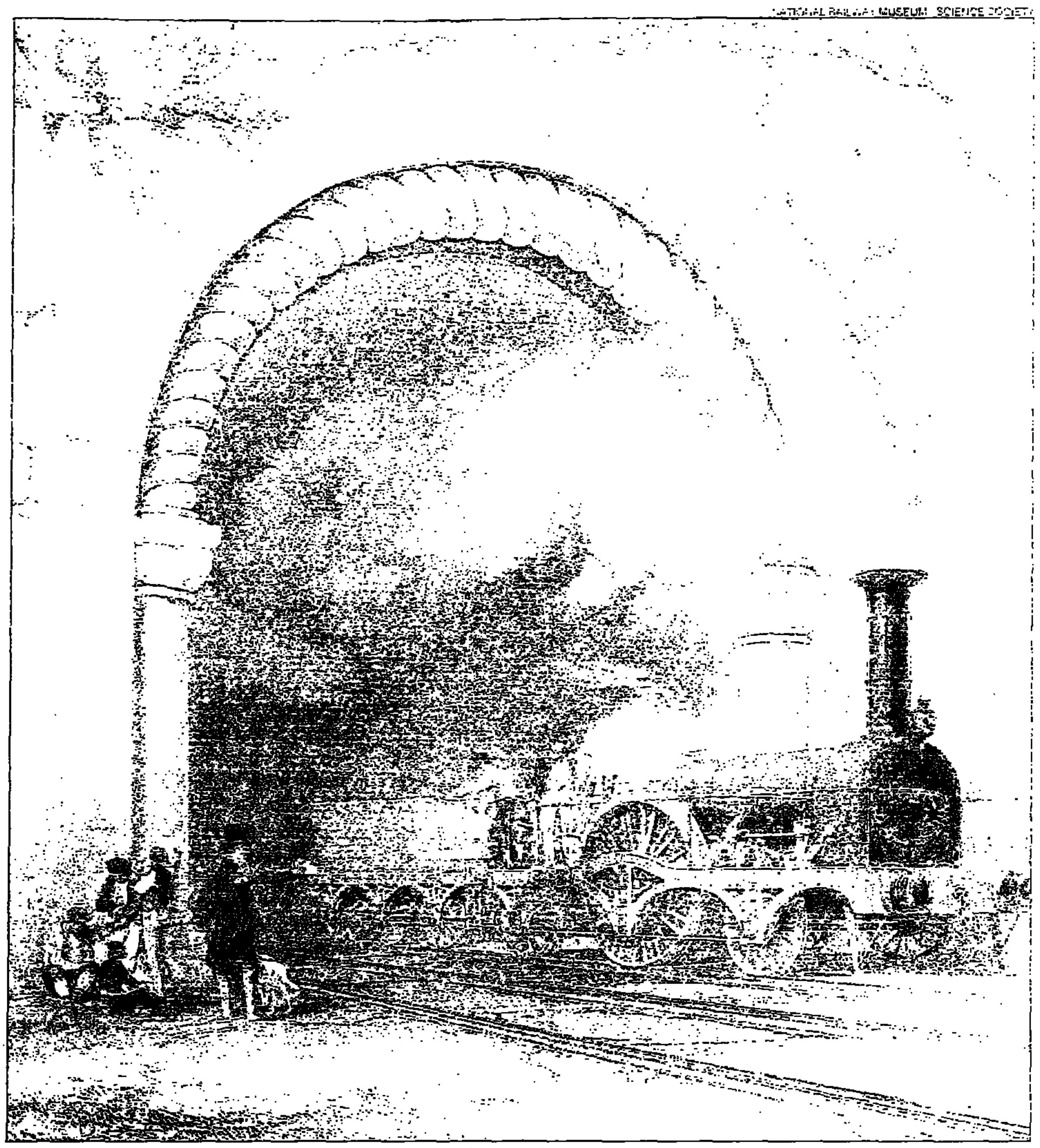
Fever of construction brought travel to the masses and wealth to the manufacturing towns. **John Young** reports

How railway age built up a head of steam


NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM SCIENCE SOCIETY

Engineers and architects created a monumental legacy of tunnels, bridges, viaducts and gloriously extravagant terminus hotels

DURING the summer of 1895, two rival railways, the London & North Western and the Great Northern, staged nightly races from the capital to Aberdeen. On the journey of more than 500 miles, the competing trains averaged over 60mph, with overall victory going to the Great Northern's East Coast service. It had been a mere 65 years since the opening of the world's first passenger service between Liverpool and Manchester — two thirds of a century in which the stagecoach had been consigned to history and the canals long since outpaced as serious competitors.

Although the first trains were running some years before Victoria ascended the throne and traffic did not reach its peak until more than a generation after her death, the railways are inextricably linked with the Victorian age.

They helped to create and serviced a social and industrial revolution, bringing travel to the masses, linking the new industrial towns and seaports, and stimulating unprecedented advances in engineering and construction. Looking today at the monumental achievements of those 19th-century engineers and architects — bridges and viaducts, soaring trainsheds and gloriously extravagant hotels — it is strange to recall that the birth of rail travel was attended by fear, suspicion and at least as much hostility as nowadays greets plans for a new road or airport runway.

The opposition was led by vested interests — coach operators, canal owners and shipping companies — allied with landowners who resented the disruption of their rural idyll. Most owners refused to allow surveyors on to their properties, and ordered their tenants and estate workers to use force if necessary to eject trespassers. The young Robert Stephenson was among those who faced fusillades of stones and gunshot.

Rural interests were overrepresented in an unreformed Parliament, notably in the shape of the notorious "rotten boroughs", whose representatives were bribable on a scale that puts today's sleaze scandals in perspective. Although the Stockton and Darlington railway, built primarily to carry coal from the Durham mines, opened in 1825 with relatively little opposition, in the same year the "antis" were able to muster enough support to defeat the first Liverpool and Manchester Bill.

It was only a shortlived setback. A year later a revised Bill received the Royal Assent. The first services between two of Britain's fastest-growing cities were operating within five years and the railway age had begun.

The opening was the signal for what Isambard Brunel, creator of the Great Western Railway, described as "an unhealthy state of fever". Would-be entrepreneurs rushed in their hundreds to climb aboard the footplate. In 1845 *The Times* reported that 620 projects had been put forward, costing an estimated £550 million: this at a time when the average labourer's wage was less than £1 a week.

Only a handful of these schemes came to fruition. But by the end of the 1840s the national network had reached more than 4,500 miles; by 1870 it was more than 15,000; and at the time of Victoria's death it was about 22,000, only some 2,000 miles short of its peak at the start of the Second World War.

They were still building at the end of her reign. The Great Central line from London to Sheffield was completed as the century turned, but it was one of the few failures; it was too late and passed through too few important places on the way. But it did bequeath us one of the capital's great railway hotels at Marylebone.

Brunel lamented a "fever" of rail projects

The impact upon the nation's way of life was enormous. Until the railways came, most people had barely travelled outside their own villages. Excitement was mixed with trepidation. The new horizons appeared to be clouded with danger and discomfort.

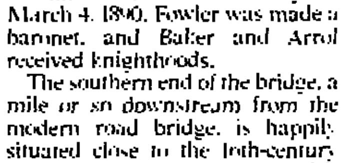
Such fears were by no means unfounded. Hot ash and cinders emitted from the engine furnaces were an ever-present fire risk and steam boilers were liable to explode. Word-of-mouth advice to passengers was that they should seat themselves as far from the engine as possible and with their backs to it. On the Liverpool to Manchester, watchmen were positioned every mile or so to clear stones and deter vandals. The railway companies had, moreover, proceeded on the assumption that their market would be confined largely to seasoned travellers, members of the new mercantile middle classes whose business took them around the country and abroad, and who would wish to be conveyed in relative comfort.

Those who demanded cheaper second and third-class accommodation had to make do with open trucks and hard wooden benches until 1844, when the Government legislated to protect them from the elements. Even in first class there was no heating or sanitation; for sustenance, passengers had to rely on picnic baskets or brief refreshment stops at stations.

Over the subsequent decades, engineering advances combined with the pressures of competition to ensure improvements in speed, comfort and safety. A growing urban population became increasingly more mobile in its habits: people used trains not just from necessity but to go on holidays and excursions. Freight traffic, too, grew by leaps and bounds.

The golden age was by no means unalloyed. Balanced against the luxury of dining and sleeping cars on the great expresses were frequent incidents involving thieves, drunkards and even murderers. Delays and cancellations were commonplace, often followed by angry letters to this newspaper: another healthily surviving Victorian legacy.

Symbol of progress stands test of time


The bridge under construction

THE late Victorian era was a time of almost limitless self-confidence and belief in progress. Its triumphalism demanded symbols, of which the mighty Forth Bridge was perhaps the most potent.

The bridge, still in daily use, stands as one of the most familiar monuments of its age. It is immensely graceful and beautiful, yet it contains not a single bolt or plate of decoration. Every last strand in its massive lattice is there for a purpose, the purpose being a belt-and-braces structure that would bear the heaviest trains and withstand the foulest gales.

Completed in 1890 at the then astronomical cost of £3.5 million, it was a wonder of its age. The three great cantilevers and the approach viaducts together span more than 1½ miles and climb to more than 360ft above high water.

Construction required some 55,000 tonnes of steel, 22,000 tonnes of cement and 107,000 cubic metres of stone and concrete. Repainting the 145 acres of steelwork employs 20 men working on the 100 or so days a year when weather permits.

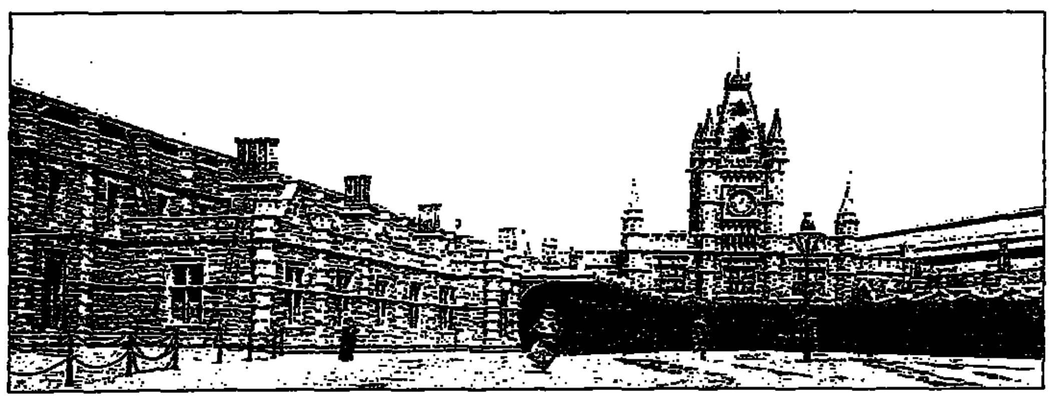
The bridging of the Forth and Tay rivers between Edinburgh and Dundee was the last great challenge the railway engineers faced, and the collapse of the Tay Bridge in a storm in December 1879 was their greatest setback. The disaster underlined the need for more advanced technology, notably the use of reinforced steel.

In February 1882 a contract was placed with a consortium led by William Arrol of Glasgow, and John Fowler and Benjamin Baker were appointed engineers in charge of the project. Eight years of dangerous work, involving more than 50 fatalities, were rewarded when the Prince of Wales drove in the final rivet at a ceremony on March 4, 1890. Fowler was made a baronet, and Baker and Arrol received knighthoods.

The southern end of the bridge, a mile or so downstream from the modern road bridge, is happily situated close to the 16th-century Hawes Inn at Queensferry, which takes its name from the ferry service that operated for centuries before the bridge was built. It is an attractive little seaport, but in summer is choked with visitors.

Westward to a wonder of the world

Brunel's Great Western Railway is an engineering masterpiece


Built on the right lines: Bristol Temple Meads station at the turn of the century

IF ANY single achievement could be said to typify Victorian enterprise and determination, a leading candidate would surely be the Great Western Railway. In its heyday, it was a byword for luxurious travel; its first-class dining cars dispensed the company's own brand of whisky.

Among its admirers is Sir Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum, who has suggested that the line between London Paddington and Bristol Temple Meads should be declared a World Heritage Site. Most of the original structures are intact.

"It seems to me to have all the ingredients of a masterpiece," he says. "It combines a simple, direct route with the highest quality engineering. Apart from the loss of the original station at Swindon and the roof at Bath, it has retained almost all the elements of an early Victorian railway."

It was conceived and meticulously planned by one of the greatest engineering geniuses. Isambard Kingdom Brunel characteristically wasted little time in fulfilling his vision. He completed his survey in three months in early 1833. Work began in 1835 and the 117-mile line was opened eight years later.

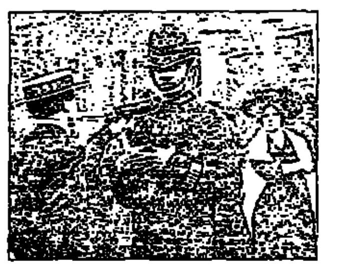
The Great Western network was later to expand to Devon and Cornwall, Wales, the West Midlands and Birkenhead. Its original purpose, however, was to provide a fast link between Bristol and London. The great port of Bristol, from which merchant venturers had voyaged to Asia, the Americas and the Indies, was under threat from newer competitors and the railway was seen as the key to reviving its fortunes. GWR directors established their boardroom not in London but at Temple Meads.

The original station at Temple Meads, completed in 1840, has been superseded by a larger building near by, but remains intact with its original train shed. A new British Empire and Commonwealth Museum is due to open there next month.

The hilly western section of the line offered the biggest challenges, notably overcome by the construction of Box Tunnel, which took five years and which rises from the Avon valley into the Cotswolds. The restored western portico can be seen from a small viewing platform just outside Box village. At the heart of the GWR empire was Swindon, a refuelling and maintenance depot which expanded into a huge engineering works, at its peak employing some 10,000 men. The works finally closed in 1986, but the handsome "village" of stone cottages has been restored and a former Wesleyan chapel has been converted into a delightful museum (open Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 2-5).

Approaching London, the line crosses the Thames on the remarkable Maidenhead viaduct, just south of the A4. A plaque observes that the twin brick spans, completed in 1838, are the longest and flattest in the world, each 128ft long and only 24ft high.

For his London terminus, Brunel designed what Betjeman described as "a conservatory in a railway cutting", fronted by the first great railway hotel. Today's station concourse was originally the garden, whence on February 2, 1901, the corpse of Queen Victoria was conveyed on its final journey to Windsor.



TOMORROW

The world of Victorian crime: a serial killer whose headcount has rarely been equalled, and the incompetent *debut of the CID*

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Solvent abuse blamed for 7-year-old's death

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A BOY aged seven is thought to be the youngest person in Britain to die from solvent abuse.

Christopher Patrick Smith was found unconscious in the cab of a pick-up truck with an opened tin of puncture repair cement lying near by. He died in hospital three hours later. A pathologist was last night attempting to diagnose precisely the cause of his death and samples have been sent for examination by toxicologists.

Christopher was found by his grandmother, who had spent three hours searching for him. He lived with his grandparents, Jack and Susan Smith, on a council caravan site for travelling families in York. He was one of six children.

Mrs Smith found him at 10pm on Saturday, slumped face down on the passenger seat of the truck and instantly recognised his white T-shirt. He was alone. She said: "I could just see him in the cab and was squealing at him to speak to me but there was no response." She contacted the boy's father, also Christopher, who lives in a seperate caravan, and he took his son by car to York District Hospital a mile away. Medical staff worked for three hours to save him but the boy failed to regain consciousness.

Mrs Smith said: "It seems the fumes from the can got the better of the lad. We don't know where the solvent came from. It is suspected he had been sniffing but it could all be just a tragic accident. Frankly I can't see him deliberately inhaling the stuff. We are all devastated by what has happened."

Detective Chief Inspector David Hunt, of York police, was yesterday trying to piece together Chrisopher's movements. "He was found in the truck cab. The can of liquid cement was on the ground outside but the screw-on cap was in the vehicle."

Christopher: found in cab of pick-up truck

He said the strong-smelling liquid adhesive had a trichloro-ethylene base and smelt like dry-cleaning fluid. Christopher's grandfather said: "I can't understand why he should sniff the stuff, unless he was experimenting. It is more likely it was all a horrible accident and that he just found the tin of tyre cement lying around the site."

Nancy Evans, director of Resolve, the only national organisation dedicated to the prevention of solvent and volatile substance abuse, said: "It is a tragic death and is the youngest yet recorded volatile substance-related death in the United Kingdom.

"We are extremely saddened by the news. We appeal to the new Government to look into creating a national strategy on VSA which is sadly lacking."

Latest figures from the Health Education Authority show that the number of deaths in England caused by solvent and aerosol abuse rose from 48 in 1994 to 56 in 1995. Geoff Webb, the HEA's drugs and solvents campaign manager, said: "It is vital young people find out as much as they can about solvents. The message is quite simple: they can and do kill instantly and at such a young age, with huge impact on family and friends."

More die from glue-sniffing

Ian Murray on shop-bought substances that are deadlier than Ecstasy

DEATHS among teenagers from glue-sniffing and other solvent abuse have increased for the first time in a decade. The latest annual figures compiled for the Health Department show that inhaling glue, gases and aerosols killed 56 people, mostly youngsters — eight more than in the previous year.

About eight times more people are killed by solvents than by Ecstasy but the deaths go largely unreported. Solvent substances, which can be bought over the counter, have killed 1,126 people since 1985, about half the number who have died from well-publicised dangerous opiates such as heroin and methadone.

The biggest increase in solvent deaths was in the Midlands, from 7 to 17 in the year. In the South, they rose from 19 to 26. But in the North West, Yorkshire and Humberside, where such incidents are usually high, they fell by half.

One of the problems in interpreting the reasons for the figures is that they are two years out of date. There is enormous difficulty in compiling accurate statistics for deaths by drug and solvent abuse because there is no centralised method of recording them or of differentiating suicides by overdose from those who die accidentally after taking narcotics.

The latest figures for solvent abuse go up only to the end of 1995. They are in a report from St George's Hospital Medical School, London, commissioned by the Health Department.

The unexpected rise in deaths from products that can be obtained so easily has shocked the Health Education Authority, which yesterday warned parents about the dangers as the summer holidays get under way and children are more likely to experiment with substances.

Geoff Webb, the authority's drugs and solvents campaign manager, said: "The message with solvents is quite simple — they can and do kill instantly, and at such a young age, with huge impact on family and friends. Trained counsellors at the National Drugs Helpline can talk through individual concerns and send out guides on solvent abuse to young people or parents."

Youngsters are most likely to start experimenting with solvents between the ages of 12 and 16, with most deaths occurring among those aged 14-17. Signs for parents to look out for are a chemical smell on the breath or clothing, the child appearing drunk and probably complaining of frequent headaches and sore throats.

In a report on drug abuse last month the British Medical Association said that solvent inhalation was "a high-risk activity". Some deaths occur from suffocation when plastic bags used to contain substance are sucked in and block the air passageways.

☐ *The National Drugs Helpline is available 24 hours a day on 0800 776600.*

Rave party drug claim

ALMOST all the people who attend rave dances take drugs there, according to a survey published today (Richard Ford writes).

Of 520 people questioned at raves in the South East, 97 per cent had taken an illegal drug at some time and 87 per cent had taken one that evening.

More men than women take drugs at raves, with cannabis and Ecstasy the most popular. More than half those questioned also said they had had sex with someone they had met on the dance floor.

The survey, by the drug charity Release, highlights the links between the dance scene and drugs by showing that rave-goers are up to three times more likely to have taken drugs than others of the same age. Most reported more positive than negative effects but depression, paranoia, fatigue and weight loss were associated with Ecstasy and amphetamines.

EXPRESS AND STAR, WOLVERHAMPTON

Viscount Cobham and Lisa Clayton at their wedding, held at Hagley Hall

Viscount weds yachtswoman

VISCOUNT Cobham, whose ex-wife, Penelope, left him for the former Tory Cabinet minister David Mellor, has married the round-the-world yachtswoman Lisa Clayton, it was disclosed yesterday.

The quiet ceremony on Friday was the first at Hagley Hall, the family seat near Birmingham, since it was granted a marriage licence. Only a handful of guests were present, including the bride's parents. Ms Clayton, a 38-year-old divorcée from Edgbaston in Birmingham, and Viscount Cobham, 54, are thought to be on honeymoon in Scotland.

In 1995 Ms Clayton completed a 31,000-mile solo voyage round the world in her yacht *The Spirit of Birmingham*. During the 286-day trip she battled with mountainous waves, gale-force winds and twice faced death when her boat capsized. However, on her return it was alleged she had cheated and she was asked to provide the World Sailing Speed Record Council with all her written logs for ratification. No action was taken and the record stood.

Viscount Cobham, a landowner who lists cricket and shooting as his principal interests in *Who's Who*, was granted a divorce two years ago on the grounds of his 43-year-old wife's adultery. She left him nearly three years ago for Mr Mellor, chairman of the Government's new Football Task Force.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dentists' cuts raise fears over tooth decay

More than half of community dentists have had their budgets cut since 1994, according to a report today by the British Dental Association. It says that the cuts, made by health trusts striving to save money for general medical services, are jeopardising the oral health of those who depend on access to free treatment, such as the elderly, children and the mentally ill. One trust in three has closed community dental surgeries and nearly one in four is planning closures. The cuts are deepest in Northern Ireland, where tooth decay in children is worse than anywhere in Britain.

Doncaster move

An official has been suspended from a council that is being investigated by police. Graham Raynor, the assistant planning director, is the second senior officer to be suspended by Doncaster council.

Fatal river crash

A holidaymaker died after his head was crushed as his boat passed beneath a bridge. Edwin Dyke, 44, of Ogbourne St George, Wiltshire, was with his family on a cruiser near Wolvercote, Oxfordshire.

Dogs die in hoax

Christine Weeks, of Westfield, near Hastings, destroyed her two greyhounds after receiving a hoax complaint, allegedly from her council. It followed a genuine Rother council warning about the dogs' noise.

Mountain death

An Irish climber killed on Mont Blanc on Monday has been named by French police as William Rattray, 29. He and a French colleague, who is in a coma, had left the summit when they fell 1,200 ft.

The lost name

The owners of the Lost World Dinosaur Adventure Park, in Norfolk, are to change its name after the film director Steven Spielberg objected to it. The name was adopted after Spielberg made *The Lost World*.

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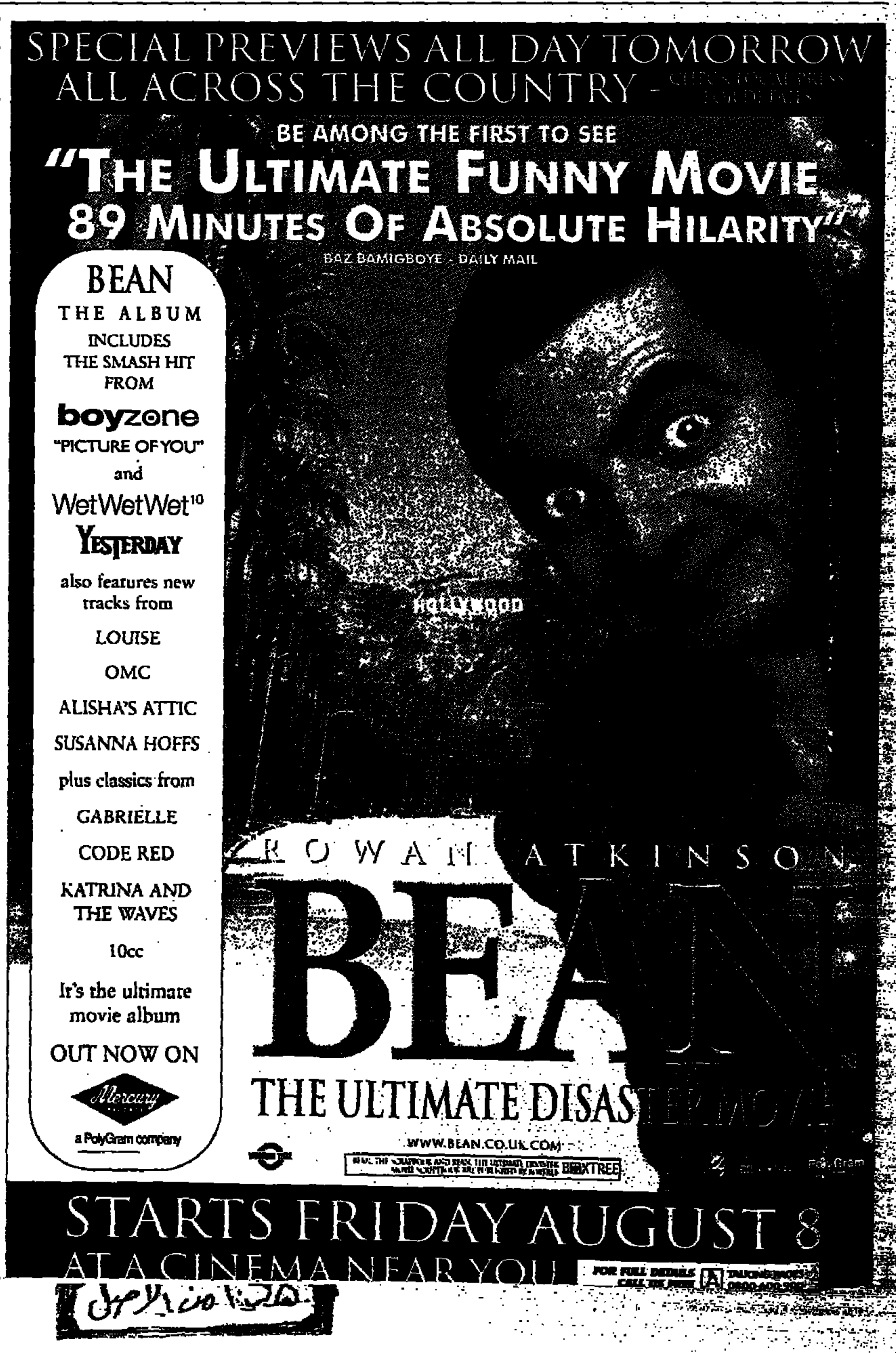

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US bomb trial told of 'plot to kill thousands'

From Tunku Varadarajan in New York

THE man accused of being the brains behind the bombing of the World Trade Centre in 1993, in which six people died, boasted that he wanted to "kill thousands" and let Americans know that "they were at war", the state prosecutor said yesterday.

Ramzi Yousef, also known as the "Engineer", faces life imprisonment if found guilty of conducting the attack four years ago. His trial, which opened at a US district court in Manhattan on Monday, is expected to last for several months.

In his opening statements yesterday, Lev Dassin, the assistant US attorney prosecuting Mr Yousef, gave a disturbing account of how the accused had gloated about his alleged deeds. Mr Dassin said: "He bragged about the bombing. He said that he wanted to topple one twin tower of the World Trade Centre with another and kill thousands, sending a message to Americans that they were at war."

The prosecutor told jurors that Mr Yousef and Eyad Ismoil, who is accused of driving the van bearing the bomb into the plate-glass skyscraper's underground garage, were part of a "self-proclaimed army of terrorists" bent on bringing mayhem to the streets of America.

More than 1,000 people were injured in the bombing in February 1993.

Mr Dassin said, indicating in the direction of Mr Yousef: "This man ordered and mixed the chemicals to make the bomb." The accused, an electrical engineer, is alleged to have confessed the details of his involvement to police after his arrest in Pakistan in 1995.

Mr Yousef's lawyer asked jurors to keep an open mind until all the evidence had been presented. Mr Ismoil's lawyer, Louis Aidala, said his client should not be convicted because of guilt by association.

The trial has come at a time when people are still reeling from the fright of last week's foiled attempt to bomb the New York subway by three Middle Eastern men who are alleged to have been potential suicide bombers. The incident has cast a shadow over the World Trade Centre bombing trial as the judge, Kevin Duffy, cautioned jurors against making any connections between the subway plot and the 1993 attack.

He said: "Some of the stories [in the press] were filled with what amounts to pure speculation, and speculation truly off the wall. The problem is, you are going to take an oath to try the case on the evidence here, not on somebody else's speculation."

The judge questioned each juror individually in an attempt to discern whether any of them was likely to be influenced in the judgment by the subway plot. Most jurors, who are anonymous for reasons of security admitted to Judge Duffy that they had seen headlines, newspaper reports, and accounts of the incident on the radio and television. But all of them were able to reassure the judge that they would not prejudge Mr Yousef or Mr Ismoil as a result. This is the third trial related to the bombing, the first two having taken place in 1993 and 1994. So far, four people have been convicted of taking part in the explosion. Mr Yousef, however, was able to flee the country on the night of the bombing and was able to elude trial.

After his arrest in Islamabad in 1995, he was convicted separately by a Manhattan federal court of a second conspiracy, involving a plot to blow up 12 American passenger airliners in Manila. That plot was not carried out.

Prosecutors at that trial portrayed him as an "evil genius".

Militants vow further Israel suicide attacks

From Ross Dunn in Jerusalem

TWO militant Islamist groups threatened yesterday to carry out more suicide attacks inside Israel as a series of high-level diplomatic meetings sought to revive the peace process.

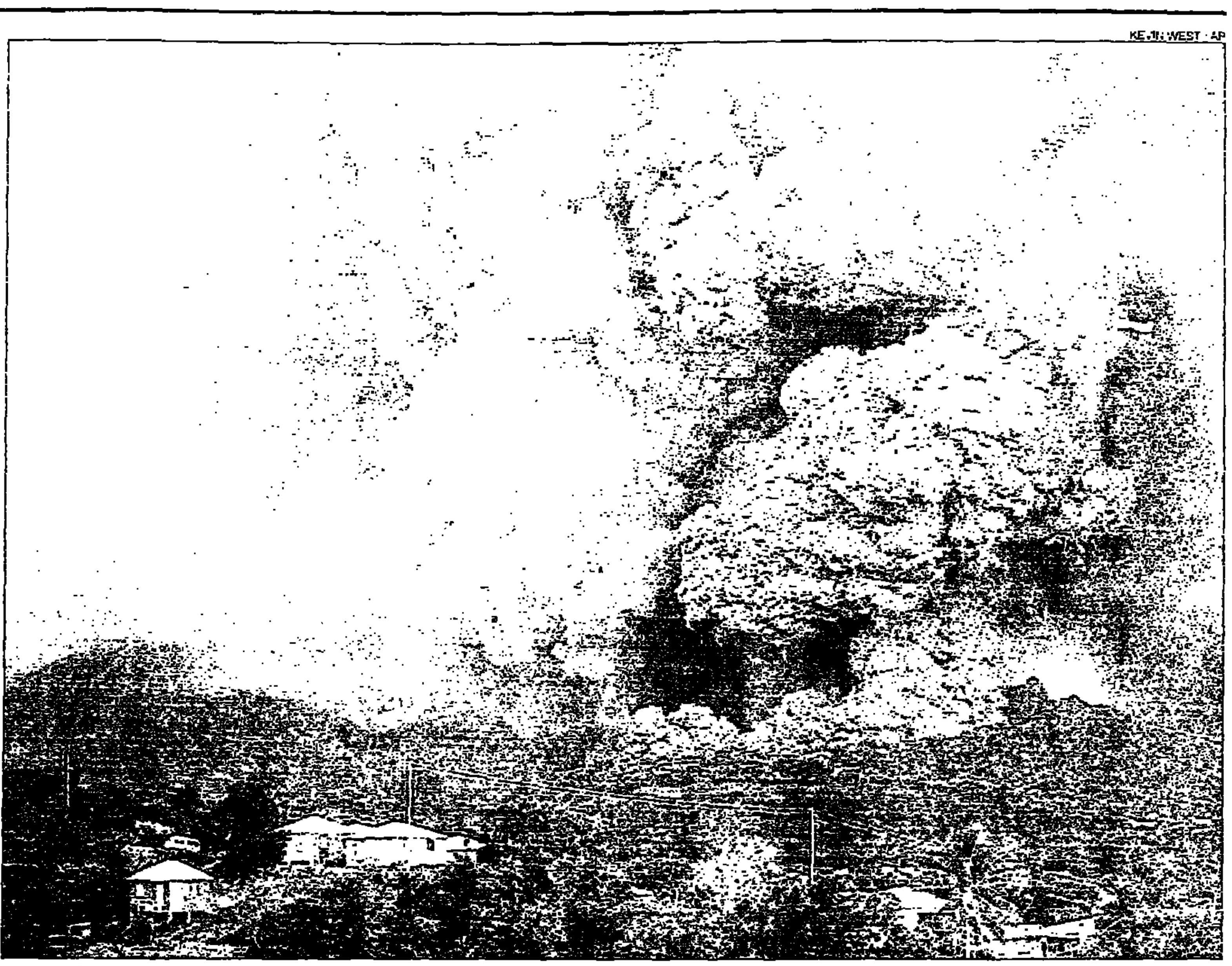
President Mubarak of Egypt said after talks in Cairo with David Levy, Israel's Foreign Minister, that he feared the latest crisis, caused by last week's suicide bombing in a Jerusalem market which killed 15, could lead to more violence if it was not resolved quickly.

King Hussein of Jordan sent a high-level delegation headed by Crown Prince Hassan to Israel yesterday with the intention of saving the talks from collapse.

The delegation will hold talks today with Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, one week after the explosions ripped apart an open-air market and halted the peace process. The meeting in Jerusalem is expected to set the stage for a summit in Amman, possibly next week, between the King and Mr Netanyahu. The move was one of a series of diplomatic initiatives to try to rescue the peace negotiations.

In yesterday's talks in Cairo, Mr Mubarak attacked sanctions imposed on the Palestinians after the suicide bombings and warned Mr Levy about the dangers of weakening the position of Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian Authority chairman, saying that would be "very, very dangerous to the peace proccess".

KEVIN WEST - AP



Smoke and ash belch from the Soufrière Hills volcano which erupted again on Montserrat yesterday amid pleas to Britain for more help

Cook pledges aid to volcano island

A Montserrat delegation was given assurances that the island's future is secure despite fears that it might be abandoned, write **Glen Owen** and **David Adams**

ROBIN COOK, the Foreign Secretary, promised yesterday to secure the future of Montserrat in the West Indies, which is threatened by increasingly violent volcanic eruptions, as a delegation from the island lobbied the Government for help.

Bertrand Osborne, Chief Minister of Montserrat, took part in the talks as hundreds more islanders fled the previously safe centre of the island when new eruptions rained ash and rocks on them.

Before dawn yesterday, the Soufrière Hills volcano erupted again, causing hundreds to flee nearby villages while the island's abandoned capital continued to burn. The colony's government had ordered hundreds more people evacuated from villages in the west-centre of the island, including the sole remaining hotel, just hours before yesterday's eruption.

Mr Cook said he had discussed options for Montserrat's future with the delegation of six ministers and businessmen. "The Government will continue to place the highest priority on sustaining and improving the economic and social structure of Montserrat," he said, adding that Britain's intention was to secure a viable future for the island.

Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development, who has allocated £41 million in emergency aid for the island, said that although residents are likely to be given the chance to leave, a full evacuation was unlikely. Some islanders have alleged that there was a "hidden agenda" to abandon the colony.

The new efforts will focus on housing schemes in a 15-square-mile zone in the North to relieve pressure on makeshift arrangements.

Montserrat, is one of Britain's six remaining Caribbean dependencies. But despite the long association, the island's main cultural identity has more to do with a blend of Irish and African origins.

It was first visited by Christopher Columbus in 1493 and was colonised by Britain as a sanctuary for victims of religious persecution. In 1632 Irish indentured labourers whose Catholicism was rejected in the American colonies were introduced. Soon afterwards the first African slaves were introduced and by the late 1700s they outnumbered whites ten to one.

The shamrock still adorns everything from passports to bars and brochures refer to "the other emerald isle". A popular folk dance, the "heel and toe," is attributed to Irish custom, and the national dish, "goatwater," is said to be traditional Irish stew.

From 1871 to 1956 Montserrat was linked with the neighbouring Leeward Islands, but in 1960 a new constitution gave the island a partially elected government. Occasional talks have been held since the early 1980s to find ways of giving the 11,000 residents their independence.

The island has had its share of disasters. In 1965, a Pan Am jet rashed into the side of the volcano, killing 34 passengers. And in 1989, Hurricane Hugo ripped homes apart.

Even after two years of volcanic eruptions, most islanders say they want to stay on, and remain profoundly loyal to the Crown.

James Reynolds, a local tailor, who returned to his native isle after a 10-year military career spent largely in Scotland, echoes the widespread gratitude on the island for Britain's helping hand. "As far as I'm concerned, without Britain we'd be in a terrible state," he said.

Indonesia in Russian plane deal

From Associated Press in Jakarta

INDONESIA has decided to buy 12 Russian-made Sukhoi-30K jet fighters and eight Mi-17IV helicopters, a senior official said yesterday.

Earlier, it cancelled a deal to buy nine fighters from the United States, in a dispute over human rights.

Ginandjar Kartasasmita, the National Development Minister, announced the decision after two months of negotiations. The fighters cost $34 million (£20 million) each. Russia will accept Indonesian palm oil, coffee and rubber as payment.

The minister said the deal with Russia was struck without any demands on non-related political issues, such as human rights.

Indonesia invaded East Timor, a former Portuguese colony, in 1975 and annexed it in 1976. The United Nations does not recognise its sovereignty there.

Last month Britain decided to honour an Indonesian order for 16 Hawk fighters, worth £160 million, despite new rules to curb arms deals with internally repressive or externally aggressive regimes.

The Indonesian Government, meanwhile, has ordered the state-owned Merpati Airlines to phase out its ageing Dutch-made Fokker F27 planes after one operated by a rival airline crashed, killing 30 people. The planes will be replaced by British Aerospace BAe-146/100s.

High-riding Thailand takes an IMF tumble

By Andrew Drummond in Bangkok and Our Foreign Staff

THAILAND'S place at the top of the world table for economic growth ended officially yesterday as the Government signalled its willingness to accept tough conditions for a £7-£9 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund.

Rumours of a coup — dismissed by the Army Commander-in-Chief — swept Bangkok as General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, the Prime Minister, and his predecessor were accused of bringing the country to its knees.

One of the IMF conditions was a drastic shake-up of the finance sector. Tough measures introduced yesterday included suspending 42 finance firms to help ease the burden on a Government that has been compelled to lend hundreds of billions of pounds to cash-strapped companies.

Full details of the IMF package have yet to be disclosed, but they also include an immediate rise of 3 per cent in VAT, bringing it in line with countries in the region at 10 per cent.

Just three years ago Thailand was riding high after enjoying a year-on-year growth rate of between 7 and 10 per cent for a decade.

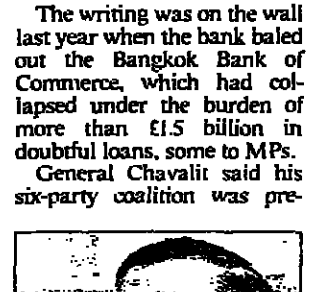
Critics say the Governments of General Chavalit and Nai Banharn Silpaarcha, his predecessor, have brought financial turmoil to the country.

Anand Panyarachun, a former caretaker Prime Minister and the winner of the Magsaysay Award for government service — Asia's equivalent of the Nobel Peace Prize — said: "I have never seen Thailand in such a serious crisis. This shows we cannot solve our own problems because there is no faith in the existing system."

In a financial free-for-all billions of pounds were handed out by banks and finance companies to influential politicians and businessmen, gambling on a booming property market which has since collapsed. Chaiyawat Wibulswasdi, Governor of the central bank, told a news conference the suspended firms would stop lending and most other business dealings for at least three months.

The writing was on the wall last year when the bank baled out the Bangkok Bank of Commerce, which had collapsed under the burden of more than £1.5 billion in doubtful loans, some to MPs.

General Chavalit said his six-party coalition was prepared to slash up to 100 billion baht (£2 billion) from its 1997/1998 fiscal budget. He did not specify which government agencies would bear the brunt of budget cuts.



Chavalit: forced to seek IMF help

In May 1992, King Bhumipol Adulyadej stepped in after many demonstrators died in protests against the Thai military which had seized power.

The protesters accused Chavalit Choonhavan, the Prime Minister at the time, of corruption and "unusual wealth". Chavalit Choonhavan is an economic adviser to the present coalition Government of Thailand.

Mr Anand yesterday called for greater public participation in government. "I would like to see a more mature society, one that will find a solution to its own malady, without resorting to the monarchy," he said.

General Chavalit faces a no-confidence motion when parliament debates its new constitution charter.

☐ **Naval boost:** Thailand's navy has taken delivery of an aircraft carrier, the first commissioned by a South-East Asian nation, a navy spokesman said yesterday.

HTMS Chakri Naruebet, which was constructed in Spain, arrived on Monday at the southern island of Phuket, where Admiral Wichit Chamnankarn, the navy's commander, made an inspection. The carrier cost £170 million and will carry nine formerly Spanish-owned Matador AV-8S Harrier jets. *(AFP)*

Boom makes Asia most expensive place to live

From Peter Capella in Geneva

ASIA'S economic boom is turning it into the world's most expensive place to live, according to an international survey, published yesterday.

Eight out of ten of the world's most expensive cities are in the Far East, with Tokyo and Hong Kong leading the annual list compiled by a Geneva-based firm, Corporate Resources Group (CRG). One of China's booming industrial cities, Guangzhou, moved into the top ten for the first time.

Only Moscow and St Petersburg upset the Asian domination, sharing high housing costs.

London shot up the rankings to 14th place, making it more expensive than Paris, Geneva and New York. Another Swiss myth, as the most costly place to live in in Western Europe, took a knock, as Geneva and Zurich dropped more than 20 places, thanks to relatively stable housing costs.

Most of the changes were attributed to the continued strength of the US dollar. CRG rates American cities as among the most affordable.

In pure financial terms, Birmingham rivals cities such as Perth in Australia and Lisbon as one of the most attractive proposals outside the top 100. Johannesburg has a cost of living index which is less than half that of sixth-placed Singapore, but the survey pays little attention to crime-prevention costs.

The list, compiled for governments and mainly American-based multinational firms, is based on a basket of 200 items, including food, clothing, household supplies, cars and leisure. Housing rents are normally out of the survey given to corporate customers.

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Spielberg: continues to break film records

Cinema's Midas rakes in millions

From Giles Whittell in Los Angeles

ALIENS and dinosaurs have heaved Steven Spielberg onto yet another Hollywood pedestal. With his name attached to this summer's two biggest blockbusters, *The Lost World* and *Men In Black*, his production company has become the first to score $100 million hits five years in succession.

Despite taking a three-year break from directing after his Oscar-winning *Schindler's List* in 1993, Spielberg has never stopped making money.

Jurassic Park, released a few months before *Schindler's List* in 1993, took $200 million (£123 million) in 14 days and more than $850 million in all. The next year Spielberg's publicists said that he was "spending time with his family". In fact, he and his company, Amblin Entertainment, produced *The Flintstones* (1994) and *Casper the Friendly Ghost* (1995), both of which made more than $100 million.

Last year he produced *Twister*, the tornado thriller, which made more than $400 million. This year he produced and directed *The Lost World*, the sequel to *Jurassic Park*, and was executive producer for *Men In Black*, in which Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith play "supercops" who "protect the Earth from the scum of the universe". Both films have made more than $200 million in America alone.

Demons of past still stalk South

Mississippi keeps imagery of slaves and the Civil War

AP

James Meredith enrolling at the University of Mississippi in 1962. Two people died and 350 were injured in the riots sparked by his arrival. The South said the involvement of federal marshals was a military invasion

From Bronwen Maddox in Oxford, Mississippi

STUDENTS returning later this month to the white pillars and magnolia trees of the University of Mississippi will find they have won their battle to preserve the image of "Ole Miss" as a fortress of the Old South.

In the face of furious protests from alumni, the Chancellor has denied that his plans to update the college's image might mean scrapping the university mascot, Colonel Reb, a whiskered caricature of a plantation owner, which black students found offensive. The Confederate battle flag and anthem "Dixie" are also likely to remain a fixture at sporting events, despite their associations with the Civil War and slavery.

Ole Miss's passion for its traditions is a sign that the *transformation* of the bigoted, backward Old South into the prosperous, tolerant New South may be less profound than it is fashionable to claim. The current trend in national politics and Supreme Court judgments is to throw power back from Washington to the states. But that assumes that the South will handle greater freedom in as much the same way the Northern states will. If that assumption is wrong, four decades of improvements in the South could unravel.

> ❛ Southerners are mourning the loss of their grits and fried catfish culture ❜

With good reason, the rest of America saw the South for decades as the heart of darkness, excelling in poverty, racism and brutality. The 1962 enrolment of black student James Meredith at Ole Miss left two dead and 350 injured after he went in backed by 5,000 soldiers and federal marshals; two years later, the murder of three young Mississippi civil rights workers shocked the nation.

Last week Oxford, home to Ole Miss, paid an ambivalent tribute to the hundredth anniversary of the birth of William Faulkner, the Nobel prizewinner who wrote of the violence and incest that lay behind the decaying Greek Revival porticos, and who famously observed that in the South "the past is not dead; it's not even past".

As Gavin Wright, an economist, points out in *New South, Old South*, the region fought to preserve its isolation even after the 1861-65 Civil War. European immigrants rather than Southerners filled many new industrial jobs in the North. It took the federal intervention of the New Deal in the 1930s and of the civil rights movement in the 1960s to puncture the shell.

In three decades the change has been huge, leaving nostalgic Southerners mourning the loss of their grits and fried catfish culture.

Income per head in the United States' 14 southeastern states, from Texas to Virginia, was 80 per cent of the US average in 1970; now it is 90 per cent. Southern politicians dominate Washington, from the centrist President Clinton and Al Gore, the Vice-President to the radical Newt Gingrich and the arch-conservative Jesse Helms.

But the South still contains some of the poorest counties in America; in Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky and West Virginia, nearly a fifth live below the poverty line, according to MDC, the North Carolina think-tank.

In its violence, the region continues to outstrip any other. A recent book, *Culture of Honour — the Psychology of Violence in the South*, blames this distinction on white, small-town, "redneck" communities. It argues that the South has a culture where "no response to the possible loss of honour is too extreme", and where people are "more likely to agree that violence is acceptable in defence of home and family and as a mechanism for social control".

Above all, the South's weakness is the poor quality of its education system: a third fail to finish high school and only a fifth have four years of college. In the past five years, the gap between the proportion of whites and blacks going on to further education has widened, according to MDC. So it is a particular worry that the decentralisation which will be one of the main legacies of the Clinton Administration is handing so much responsibility for welfare-to-work and training back to the states. Mr Clinton's motives appear to be as much financial pragmatism — lifting the burden on federal budgets — as his conservative-leaning ideology.

However, the policy has so far been best tested in states like Wisconsin: wealthy, with good schools, and a tradition of humanity in tackling poverty and race.

The South may have changed, but it is a long way from Wisconsin. It will find it harder and more expensive to squeeze its poor into the workforce and to educate its population so that it attracts high-tech industries.

Southern politicians are largely responsible for giving power back to the states, but they have not matched freedom with federal money: in the end, the South may not thank them for it.

Militant marcher fell out of step

AS A clean-cut, crisply dressed Korean War veteran, James Meredith braved rioting whites to step through the doors of Ole Miss, backed by 5,000 soldiers and federal marshals. Mr Meredith's battle, which had the fervent support of President Kennedy, gripped the nation, as furious white Southerners called it a military invasion (Bronwen Maddox writes).

Four years later, a sniper's bullet wounded him during his solo "March against Fear" across Tennessee and Mississippi, bringing civil rights heroes Martin Luther King and Stokely Carmichael to his bedside. But his eccentricity prevented him becoming a leader of the movement.

In 1989 he was hired as a domestic policy adviser by Jesse Helms, the arch-conservative North Carolina senator who has frequently fought civil rights laws. But he left abruptly two years later after sending out a statement on the senator's notepaper accusing 60 per cent of the delegates to a national black convention of involvement in the drug culture. He lost more support by endorsing former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke's campaign for Governor of Louisiana.

In May the *Charleston Post and Courier* described Mr Meredith, who lives in Jackson, Mississippi, as "an anaemic-looking man with watery brown eyes and the stiff movements of a person in poor health".

Spread of rabies sounds alarm in America

By Bronwen Maddox

RABIES is spreading throughout the eastern United States, posing a growing threat to health and safety, according to public officials.

Doctors in the affluent country towns of Virginia and Maryland have been startled to receive cases of people attacked and bitten by foxes which later tested positive for rabies. Dr Nancy Welch, who treated a woman last month for potential infection, said: "We haven't had a rabid fox here in Chesapeake for at least ten years."

Four people were attacked last autumn by a rabid fox in the gardens of the Woodlawn Plantation at Mount Vernon, near the heavily visited residence of George Washington.

Health officials have described the "very mobile virus" as potentially "a major problem for the US". Dr Suzanne Jenkins, assistant state epidemiologist for Virginia, told the *Washington Times*: "The whole East Coast has a racoon-rabies outbreak."

Racoons and foxes are blamed for spreading the disease, which has traditionally had a stronghold only in the rural, heavily wooded southeast. There have been recent reports of rabid racoons in Ohio, a state which had only ten rabid animal cases in 1995.

Rabies, "carried in saliva, attacks the brain and nervous system. If a person infected with the rabies virus is not treated immediately with repeated injections of vaccine, convulsions, aversion to water and death will follow. However, doctors want to spread the message that the injections, once notoriously agonising, are now less painful, and people should not shun the treatment if bitten by an animal acting suspiciously.

Fewer than two people on average die each year from rabies in the entire United States. But the number having rabies vaccinations after animal bites has risen from 16,000 in 1981 to more than 39,000 today. The risk is growing because rapid economic growth is pushing communities further into America's vast wooded areas.

US threatens Bosnia sanctions over stalling on peace accord

By Bronwen Maddox

THE United States has suspended contacts with Bosnia's Ambassador to Washington and threatened new sanctions unless rapid steps are taken to meet the Dayton peace accords and hand over war criminals.

Yesterday senior US envoys, Richard Holbrooke and Robert Gelbard, arrived in the region with a strong message that further stalling of the Dayton plan to rebuild a single, unified state could trigger economic sanctions.

The envoys plan to present President Milosevic of Yugoslavia with a list of punishments if he fails to play his promised part in Bosnian reconstruction, particularly using his influence to hand over Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb leader indicted on war crimes charges in The Hague.

The United States is also furious that Mr Milosevic has allowed Ratko Mladic, the former Bosnian Serb commander who is high on the war crimes suspects list, to travel through the region unhindered. This summer, Mr Mladic attended his son's wedding at a Belgrade hotel and went on holiday to a seaside village in Montenegro.

The three-day mission comes as concern is mounting in Washington that the Serb authorities' defiance of the Dayton accords will block any reconstruction and threaten the planned exit of American and European troops by mid 1998. President Clinton's hint that withdrawal might be delayed provoked furious attacks from Congress. But the US has held back so far from imposing new sanctions for fear of hurting the fragile Bosnian economy, wrecked by four years of civil war.

The American decision to cut off contact with Sven Alkalaj, the Bosnian Ambassador, followed similar actions this week by Britain, Germany, France, Austria, Sweden and Italy. It was prompted by the failure of the three-member Bosnian presidency to appoint diplomats to represent the Muslim, Croat and Serb factions by the Dayton deadline of August 1.

Senior State Department officials have also rebuked Carlos Westendorp, the international community's representative in Bosnia, in unusually strong terms. They question why he is not spending more time in Bosnia, and criticised his extension of negotiating deadlines.

☐ **Pale:** A senior Bosnian Serb official and ally of Dr Karadzic called yesterday for a general amnesty for all war crimes suspects from former Yugoslavia. In a letter to President Clinton and other world leaders, Momcilo Krajisnik, the Serb member of Bosnia's collective presidency, said that any further moves against suspected war criminals could shatter the country's fragile peace.

The Nato-led peace force arrested one Serb war crimes suspect and killed another resisting arrest on July 10 in the northern Bosnian town of Prijedor. Since then, a number of hand grenade and arson attacks have targeted the force and representatives of other international organisations. Mr Krajisnik suggested a total amnesty. *(AP)*

Sea explorer accused of plunder

From Richard Owen in Rome and Ian Brodie in Washington

SICILIAN allegations of plundering and piracy were rejected last night by Robert Ballard, the explorer known as the Indiana Jones of the Deep, who found a concentration of ancient shipwrecks in the Mediterranean.

"I do not like being wrongly accused," he said from his research centre in Connecticut. He said that few artefacts were taken from the eight ships he explored and the site was 70 miles from land, far beyond Italy's 12-mile limit.

His director of archaeology, Anna Marguerite McCann, a leading American authority on Italian antiquities, confirmed that her Italian counterparts had been kept fully informed of the operation.

The allegations were made by officials on the western coast of Sicily, among them Rosalia Camerata Scovazzo, superintendent of antiquities in Trapani, who said she was demanding that Dr Ballard be investigated. She had protested to Walter Veltroni, the Italian Minister of Culture, who is also Deputy Prime Minister.

"This is another example of the continuous plunder of Sicilian waters," she said. "I can find no evidence that this American expedition was authorised. I am asking the Cabinet in Rome to intervene and to put an end to this looting once and for all."

Giuseppe Petralia, chief prosecutor in Sciacca, said he was investigating whether Dr Ballard's exploration had been conducted in international waters.

Another superintendent of antiquities, Graziella Fiorentini, in Agrigento, said: "This is an act of piracy. I am sounding the alarm. It must be stopped."

Dr Ballard, who found five Roman ships, a 17th-century Islamic fishing vessel and two 19th-century ships, said he was fully confident the Italians knew his location. He was accompanied by Francesco Torre, head of the maritime museum in Trapani, who knew they were well beyond the 12-mile limit.

Far from plundering, very little had been recovered from the ships and 99.9 per cent of the artefacts were left in place. Dr Ballard said it was his policy not to recover vast amounts of treasure trove but to take only sufficient material to determine its age and origin.

Ballard: "I was well outside 12-mile limit"

It was his fifth expedition in the area in the past nine years and the first time he had been contacted by the Italians. "It comes as a surprise that all of a sudden we are being accused of piracy and plundering since they were well aware of our programme," he said.

Fewer than 15 items out of thousands were taken from each of six ships and nothing from the other two. The wrecks had been left where they were found and the items recovered were protected by the non-profit Sea Research Foundation which would not allow their exploitation. The material cannot be sold and the collection cannot be broken up, Dr Ballard said.

Scholars were free to examine the items, which included Roman bronze vessels and amphorae, clay containers for oil and wine and food. Nothing was damaged in the recovery and money was being spent to stabilise and preserve the artefacts.

Dr Ballard refused to speculate why the Sicilians appeared to be demonstrating hurt pride, but he did say more damage was being done to ancient shipwrecks in the region by Sicilian trawlers than by his submarine and underwater robot. "They are gouging the ocean bottom with steel doors in search of fish," he said.

Far from being a plunderer, he said, he was worried about others who would try to loot the ancient ships with no international laws to deter them.

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Cosmonauts blast off to rescue Mir

BY RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW AND NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

RUSSIA'S future in space lies in the hands of two veteran cosmonauts who were fired into orbit yesterday to repair the stricken space station Mir, only hours after its two oxygen generators broke down.

As Mir's three-man crew struggled to deal with the latest problem on the accident-prone orbiter, Anatoli Solovyov and Pavel Vinogradov were launched in a *Soyuz* rocket from the space centre at Baikonur, Kazakhstan, for what was described as Russia's most important mission in a decade.

The two men have been undergoing exhaustive preparations for their mission to repair the holed Spektr module on Mir and reconnect the station's power supply, damaged during a collision on June 25.

The mission got off to a promising start as the rocket made a perfect lift-off on its way to dock with Mir tomorrow. However, in space the prospects looked less positive. Only hours before the *Soyuz* rocket was launched, the two oxygen-generating machines broke down.

Russian space officials, who are still reluctant to admit to setbacks, sought to play down the incident and emphasised that the crew had enough oxygen canisters for two months.

"This has happened a thousand times before, so it is not worth making a fuss about," said Viktor Blagov, the deputy flight director at Mission Control. "Yes we are concerned, but we have immense experience on our shoulders in dealing with this."

The mission has become an exercise in crisis management rather than serious science, according to Professor André Balogh of Imperial College, London. He said that the crew had been doing nothing scientifically useful for six weeks. "They are learning lessons in managing disasters in space. That could be useful, but I personally would rather not be part of the crew."

There is no disguising the very real sense of concern throughout Russia that one of the few positive legacies of the Soviet era may be about to come to an end unless Mir can be made fully operational again.

For the first time in years, General Igor Sergeyev, the Defence Minister, who is ultimately responsible for space operations, and Yuri Baturin, the head of the Defence Council, flew to Baikonur for the launch.

The concern of the leadership is understandable. In any Western country the Mir programme would have been halted long ago for safety reasons, after a series of accidents including a serious fire, the collision and numerous power failures.

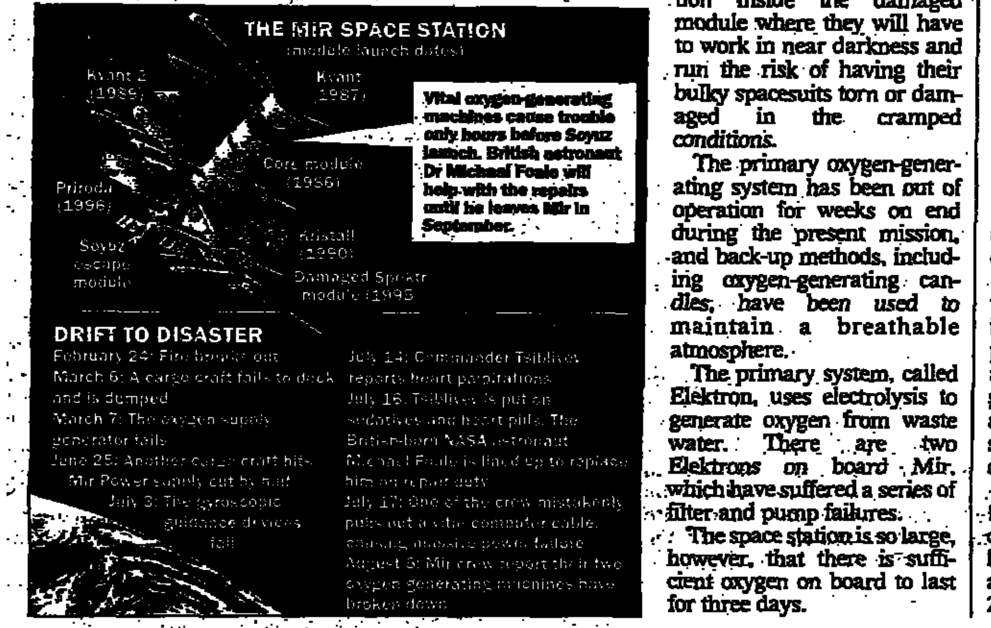
However, the Russians are determined to keep the 120-tonne orbiter going for another two years. Although Russia is short of cash for its space programme, maintaining manned missions on Mir ensures financial support from Nasa and European space agencies and will guarantee Russia automatic participation in the next generation of space exploration, the international space centre.

The new operation is one of the most delicate and dangerous ever attempted in space. Mr Solovyov and his deputy are expected to conduct six spacewalks, beginning on August 20, including one operation inside the damaged module where they will have to work in near darkness and run the risk of having their bulky spacesuits torn or damaged in the cramped conditions.

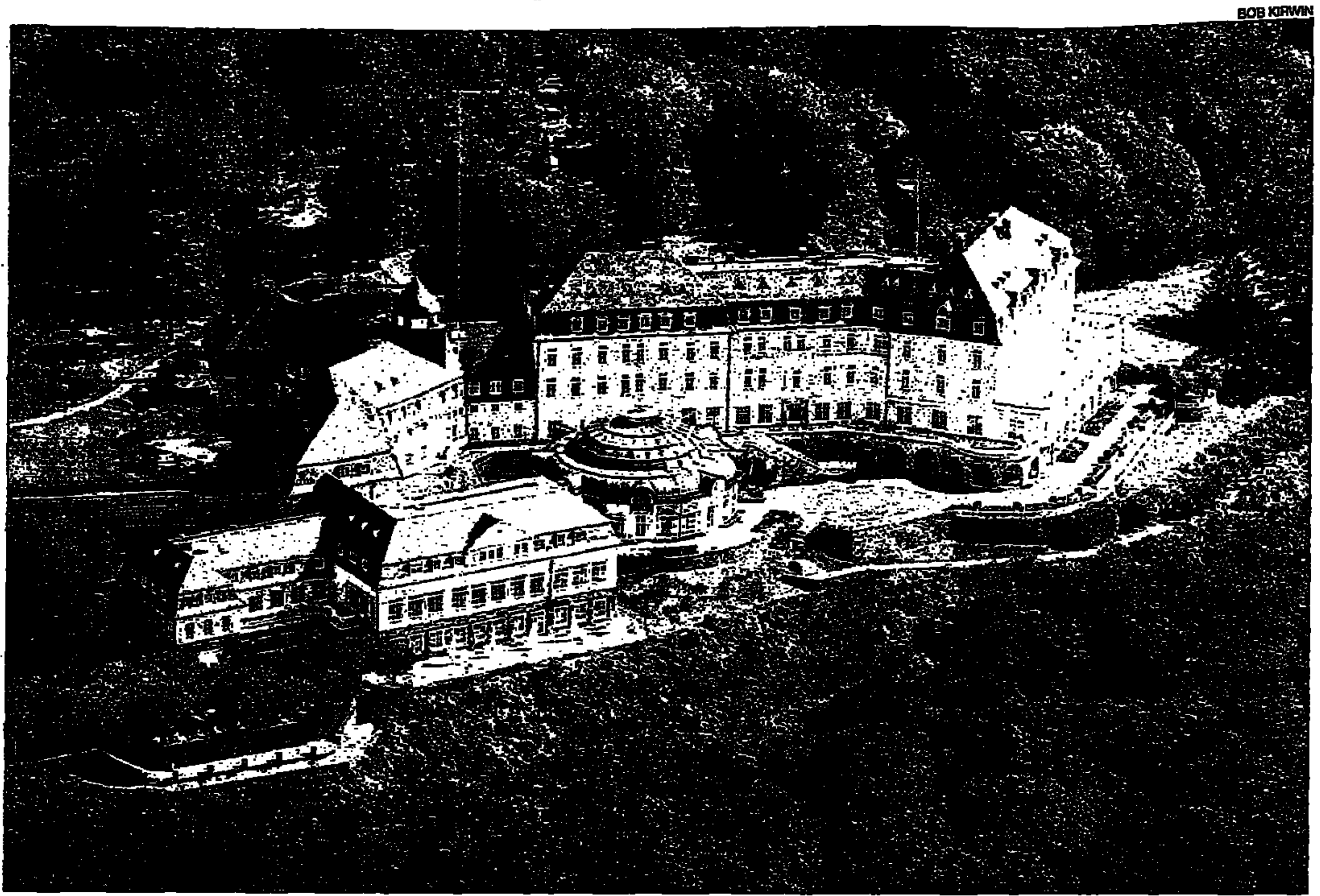
The primary oxygen-generating system has been out of operation for weeks on end during the present mission, and back-up methods, including oxygen-generating candles, have been used to maintain a breathable atmosphere.

The primary system, called Elektron, uses electrolysis to generate oxygen from waste water. There are two Elektrons on board Mir, which have suffered a series of filter and pump failures.

The space station is so large, however, that there is sufficient oxygen on board to last for three days.


THE MIR SPACE STATION
(module launch dates)
Kvant 2 (1989)
Kvant (1987)
Vital oxygen-generating machines cause trouble only hours before Soyuz launch. British astronaut Dr Michael Foale will help with the repairs until he leaves Mir in September.
Core module (1986)
Priroda (1996)
Kristall (1990)
Soyuz escape module
Damaged Spektr module (1995)
DRIFT TO DISASTER
February 24: Fire breaks out
March 6: A cargo craft fails to dock and is dumped
March 7: The oxygen supply generator fails
June 25: Another cargo craft hits Mir. Power supply cut by half
July 3: The gyroscopic guidance devices fail
July 14: Commander Tsibliyev reports heart palpitations
July 16: Tsibliyev is put on sedatives and heart pills. The British-born NASA astronaut Michael Foale is lined up to replace him on repair duty
July 17: One of the crew mistakenly pulls out a vital computer cable, causing massive power failure
August 5: Mir crew report their two oxygen generating machines have broken down

BOB KIRWIN



The sprawling grounds of the Peterberg Hotel above the Rhine make it ideal for top-rank statesmen needing high-security protection

Cash-starved Bonn sells off VIP eyrie

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BONN

THE German Government, strapped for cash, is putting up for sale its exclusive hilltop hotel which has housed the likes of Neville Chamberlain, Leonid Brezhnev and Yassir Arafat.

The Petersberg Hotel, perched high above the Rhine across the river from Bonn, is the jewel in the crown of the Government's extensive property portfolio. Now, in order to ease the country's budgetary problems and keep on track for European economic and monetary union, the sprawling estate is on offer to the highest bidder.

Built in 1914, the hotel houses visitors who need high-security protection — it is three minutes from the helicopter pad to the Chancellor's office — but also accepts ordinary, albeit wealthy, guests. The rooms cost between £250 and £400 a night and the guests have some unusual perks, including an 18th-century chapel.

The asking price will be about £70 million; a handy but not decisive contribution to plugging Germany's budget deficit; but the new owner will also have to find the cash to maintain 270 acres of parkland. The narrow, winding approach roads make Petersberg attractive as a security compound, which is why it is favoured by Middle Eastern guests, but also make it rather impractical for most tourists.

Brezhnev, the Kremlin leader, had his own experiences on the road when he was presented with a Mercedes coupé in 1973. The Soviet leader collected cars and his aides had hinted broadly that he favoured this model. But Brezhnev crashed the car minutes after receiving it from Willy Brandt, a short drive down the Petersberg hill. One theory is that Brezhnev drove the car into a ditch deliberately because he did not like the colour. The replacement was a different shade.

The dramatic river view from the presidential suite of the hotel may have lured Chamberlain into trusting Hitler. The Prime Minister stayed in the hotel in September 1938 during one of his missions to persuade Hitler to stay out of the Sudetenland. It was in the Petersberg that the outlines of the Munich agreement were laid down. Hitler, of course, ended by ignoring the accord.

Neville Chamberlain and Adolf Hitler drafted an outline of the Munich pact when they met at the Petersberg Hotel in 1938

Despite these negative associations, the Queen was happy to stay there and other guests have included the late Shah of Iran and King Hussein of Jordan. In more recent years, the leaders of the warring Bosnian factions were put up there.

Whenever a VIP with top-security rating is lodged there, ordinary guests are barred from the hotel. That makes a stay there rather haphazard and has led to the loss of business: hence the annual government subsidy of about £1 million. There are about 30 bidders in the running, including millionaires and hotel chains.

Local people have use of the hotel's parkland and are determined therefore that the Petersberg should not fall into the hands of a reclusive millionaire like Michael Jackson. "That would be a disaster: there would be grubby fans everywhere and dog patrols around the perimeter," a nearby shopkeeper said.

Other celebrities, however, are welcome to make a bid. Michael Schumacher, the racing driver, celebrated his wedding reception in a large courtyard of the hotel.

Italy moves SS captain to prison

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

ERICH PRIEBKE, the former Nazi officer convicted of taking part in Italy's worst wartime atrocity, is to be moved to prison from the friary where he is under house arrest, according to Antonino Intelisano, Rome's chief military prosecutor.

Signor Intelisano said the Franciscans at the San Bonaventura friary at Frascati, in the hills south of Rome, had told him "they do not want Priebke any more". He said the friary had given the former SS captain refuge during his trial, but had not meant to "extend their hospitality" to include his jail sentence. He has been allowed to remain at the friary under armed guard since the trial ended two weeks ago.

Last month Priebke was found guilty of taking part in the massacre of 335 Italian men and boys in the Ardeatine caves just outside Rome in March 1944, and was sentenced to 15 years in jail. Because of his advanced age — he is 83 — this was reduced to five, of which he is likely to serve less than a year if the time already spent awaiting trial is taken into account.

Priebke was first convicted last year, after extradition to Italy from Argentina in 1995, but was released because of a statute of limitations covering crimes committed more than 50 years ago. After a public outcry he was rearrested, and his retrial opened earlier this year.

The uncertainty over Priebke's fate came as Italy confronted another facet of the Fascist past, the confiscation by the German authorities of valuables belonging to Italian Jews.

At a moving ceremony Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the Budget and Treasury Minister, handed over to representatives of Italy's Jewish community a "treasure trove" of pocket watches, jewels, silver, necklaces, bracelets and gold teeth taken from Jews rounded up in Trieste during the German wartime occupation.

Trieste had the only Nazi death camp on Italian soil, at San Sabba.

Disgruntled tycoons hit Yeltsin 'heir' with corruption allegations

BY RICHARD BEESTON

BORIS NEMTSOV, the popular young Russian minister tipped to succeed President Yeltsin, has had his image badly tarnished by allegations of sleaze, bribery and abuse of office.

In the space of a few days, the energetic Deputy Prime Minister, who made his name as an anti-corruption crusader, has been thrown on the defensive by a concerted campaign to discredit his character and limit his authority. The attack was orchestrated by a group of disgruntled banking and media tycoons who last week lost a multi-million pound bid for shares in Svyazinvest, the newly privatised telecommunications company.

Mr Nemtsov hailed the sell-off as one of the first honest auctions in Russia's troubled privatisation history. But supporters of the losing bids, like Boris Berezovsky, the deputy head of the security council, and Vladimir Gusinsky, who heads a banking and media empire, accused the Government of bias in favour of the £1.1 billion winning bid by Uneximbank.

Mr Gusinsky's NTV, Russia's only independent network, made the first attack accusing the 37-year old Deputy Prime Minister of backing the winning bid to assure campaign funding for his presidential challenge in three years time. It went on to accuse him of everything from incompetence to poor taste, when he was castigated for being too casually dressed for a government meeting.

Andrei Klimentyev, Mr Nemtsov's former friend and political ally, pressed home the attack with far more damaging allegations on Friday. The former businessman, who was convicted of stealing, alleged that, when Mr Nemtsov was Governor of Nizhny Novgorod, he accepted bribes worth more than £500,000 and took part in a scam to steal more than £7 million in government credits intended for a local shipping company.

The latest blow came on Monday when Aleksandr Minkin, an investigative journalist, published transcripts in *Novaya Gazeta* of a taped telephone conversation said to be between Mr Nemtsov and Sergei Lisovsky, head of a powerful media group. The Deputy Prime Minister reportedly demanded that Mr Lisovsky pay him more than £60,000 for his recently published book, *The Provincial*, so that he could include the money in his declaration of earnings.

Mr Minkin wondered how the slim volume of memoirs could be worth the hefty advance payment. Mr Nemtsov has also been accused of delaying his own anti-corruption legislation for three days, allowing many senior government officials to avoid revealing the whole extent of their assets.

Nemtsov: has started legal action over claims

In spite of the public campaign, Mr Nemtsov, who has just left for his home town of Sochi for a summer holiday, vowed to fight back. He has instructed Vitali Khakin, his lawyer, to file a libel suit against Mr Klimentyev and asked the public prosecutor's office to investigate the tapping of his telephone.

Despite calls for his sacking by opposition figures, particularly his old enemy, Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the ultra-nationalist leader, the young reformer is expected to survive the current campaign, albeit with his reputation battered. However, the row could cause serious long-term problems for Mr Yeltsin, who has relied on the close co-operation between his ministers and the powerful business community to guarantee his stability.

Mr Gusinsky and Mr Berezovsky were key members of an informal alliance of bankers and media moguls, whose funding and propaganda were instrumental in the President's re-election campaign last year. If a split has emerged between his Government and the private sector his own political base could be threatened.

Mosquitoes add biblical touch to floods

BY ROGER BOYES

SIMON WILSON, a BBC producer, was proud to have bamboozled German police checkpoints and enter the no-go area near the swollen banks of the Oder. A sleepless night in a damp garden shed was a cheap price for good television pictures of the expected gushing of floodwaters in Oderbruch.

The floods did not come, but the mosquitoes did. Like all journalists on the sodden dykes of eastern Germany, his arms and neck are tattooed with mosquito bites. "They're big and bad," he says.

There is something biblical about this summer in Central Europe. First came the floods in the Czech Republic and Poland, killing almost 100 people and sending Germany into a panic. Then came pestilence, symbolised by the swimming rats and the fearful smell of the waters which are thrusting chemicals towards the Baltic. Another 5,000 people are to be innoculated against jaundice and typhoid fever; the concern is that the faeces brought to the surface by flooded sewers will spread disease.

Now a plague of mosquitoes. Attracted by the brackish water, mosquitoes must feel they are in paradise. The heat gives a slightly tropical feel. These are the dog-days of summer when local farmers traditionally ban their children from swimming in the river or lakes: the heat and humidity force too many infected dogs or diseased livestock to cool down in the water. Sweat pours off the backs of the reporters delivering breathless commentaries to camera. They are natural mosquito victims, as are the 14,000 soldiers shifting sandbags. Medical supplies are being flown in not so much for flood refugees as for scratching soldiers who have an urgent need of anti-histamine.

In the Czech Republic Otakar Prazak, an environmental scientist from Breclav, is talking of a mosquito invasion. Czech aid workers are spraying areas close to homes. In Wroclaw, on the Polish side of the river, town planners intend to smoke out the mosquitoes. "Perhaps we can half the mosquito population with this smoke action — even that would be a success," Dr Andrzej Puzio, the health chief of the Polish flood committee, said. It will not be so easy to combat the rats — the water level in the sewers is still too high — and there are now four rats for every resident of Wroclaw. The authorities seem to be counting on cats to keep down the rats, but many cats have drowned.

President Herzog visited the German flood region yesterday. Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, issued a statement to parliament praising the work of the relief organisations. Herr Kohl said that total federal government aid to the east would reach DM500 million (£165 million). Water levels are dropping, but authorities said again yesterday that the pressure on the dykes is still very high and so the danger of flooding has not receded.

Italian Alps claim 8 climbers

Bolzano: Eight climbers died and the wife of a senior German diplomat was missing after a series of accidents in the eastern Italian Alps, police said yesterday.

Four firemen from northern Italy were killed when they fell more than 330ft from the approach to the 12,600ft summit of the Great Zebru mountain near the Swiss and Austrian borders.

Another three climbers died in a separate incident on the same mountain later in the day. One of them was reportedly a 44-year-old Alpine guide who had witnessed the first accident and alerted mountain rescue services.

"The weather is fine at the moment and we have no idea why all these people have died," an official said.

Fifty miles further east, a 62-year-old man died after falling 165ft from Pelmo mountain near Belluno.

Anna Maria Neuner, 56, the wife of a German diplomat to the Vatican, went missing on Monday. *(Reuter)*

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ABOVE: Gunmetal silk bias-cut dress, £150. Silver cardigan, £120

ABOVE: Pale blue jersey tunic. £70; matching wide-leg trousers, £80 **BELOW RIGHT:** Grape silk halter-neck dress, £180. All clothes by Pearce Fionda for Debenhams at selected branches nationwide. 0171-408 4444

Flattery and glamour are in the high street, says **Grace Bradberry**

Ren Pearce and Andrew Fionda have never made any secret of their intention to design expensive clothes for an exclusive clientele. Since launching their label in 1994, they have produced sophisticated tailoring and stunning bias-cut evening dresses — with price tags over the £1,000 mark.

In this rarefied strata of fashion, they are doing jolly well. The actress Francesca Annis, partner of Ralph Fiennes, wore one of their creations to the Oscars. They have also dressed Anjelica Houston and the model Amber Valetta. To the rest of us they have, so far, been an irrelevance, albeit a very beautiful one.

The news that they were to design a collection for Debenhams inspired both excitement and scepticism in equal measure. Skimpy, vogueish clothes aimed at skinny under-25s translate easily to the high street. It's much harder with clothes aimed at older women where the cut, the fabric and the silhouette are everything.

Somehow Pearce Fionda have pulled it off. They've kept *the pronounced shapes of their trousers and jackets and the* sweep of their evening dresses, without the clothes looking department storeish.

Perhaps the best thing about the collection however, is that it is designed to create long, lean lines where they do not naturally exist. This kind of flattery usually costs a bomb (though why this should be is one of the great shopping mysteries). It's a joy to see someone delivering it at a reasonable price.

Summer Sale

Susan Duckworth's
Butterflies
from Ehrman Tapestry

Susan Duckworth's butterflies crowd together on this tapestry creating a wonderful kaleidoscope of phosphorescent colour. On a speckled cream background, vivid reds, apricot, topaz and ultramarines combine with paler powder blues, ochre, Venetian red, carnation and cinnamon brown in a cloud of overlapping wings. These fresh and cheerful colours make this one of Susan Duckworth's very best tapestries, and it is stitched on 14 mesh canvas to capture the subtle detail of the design.

Measuring 13" x 13" the design is printed in full colour on 14 holes to the inch canvas. 100% pure new wool from the Twilley range is used and the pattern can be worked in either half-cross or tent stitch. The kit costs £25 including postage and packing, and comes complete with wool, canvas, needle and instruction leaflet. When ordering use FREEPOST – no stamp is needed.

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ABOVE: Black silk taffeta ruffle-front shirt, £80. Cream [illegible] wide-leg trousers, £120. PHOTOGRAPHER: Bruno Barbazan

Five go mad in Shepherds Bush

While fans wait for a new series, **Bridget Harrison** describes the real *This Life*

The east of This Life

Thanks to *This Life* and *Friends*, we are suddenly part of a new phenomenon. Five girls (definitely not women) in their twenties, living together in a chaotic terrace house in Shepherds Bush, with two cats, two tortoises and two goldfish. Four of us went to school together; the fifth is a friend from university.

To us...no arrangement could be more sensible — we don't want to live alone, or move in with boyfriends — but we seem to inspire continued fascination. *It's a bit like being lesbians*: men always want to know what it is you do together. "Ah, so there's five of you — five girls, I'd love to come over for dinner some time."

We are often compared to *This Life*, the cult television programme about 20-somethings sharing a house [The current series ends tomorrow night.] In many ways, we are. We worry about our careers, *bicker in the mornings and* get drunk together in our local. We even have the occasional candle-lit bath.

Unfortunately we have no one hanging around the house who *looks like Miles* or Joe and we don't have rows about each other's *Weetabix* because all our food is communal.

As soon as we moved in, we decided that bits of cheese and coffee jars with our names stuck on them would be totally uncivilised. *Every time any of* us does a shop, we write down the cost and months later work out who owes who what.

Tension did arise in the beginning when the more extravagant among us came home bearing M&S bags stuffed with quails' eggs, huge hunks of parmesan and growing herbs that lasted five minutes. Tart replies of "You may complain but you're pretty quick to tuck in," has led arguments over the food bill to a long-lasting stalemate and we hardly bother now.

Considering our salaries range *from £8,000 to £36,000*, we have

ASHLEY COOMBES

Housemates and friends Caroline, Juliet, Tilly, Jemima and Bridget: "To us no arrangement could be more sensible, but we seem to inspire continued fascination"

remarkably few disagreements about money.

Cooking is done by those who get home first. Those who don't cook must wash up, supposedly on the same night. Sometimes the shopping is neglected for weeks and we live off the "57 varieties" of takeaway to be found in Shepherds Bush.

Although each of us have separate social lives, we can become absorbed in house activities, such *as painting the kitchen chairs*, reseeding the lawn, watching *EastEnders*, *This Life* and *Friends* (during which call-minder gets the phone) and throwing huge parties at which we usually end up far drunker than any of our guests.

When we moved into the house, two years ago this spring, all five of us had boyfriends. Now only two remain, and have become so assimilated that they act as house chaperones. Other boyfriends were not exactly pushed out, but girls *together can be militant. When one* of us has been found gently sobbing into her pillow after a row with a man, we have descended with bottles of wine, cigarettes and plenty of stern advice — "you deserve better, it's high time he was binned".

Unsuitable suitors have also been seen off with startling brutality. One had barely closed the door behind him before contemptuously arched eyebrows confirmed he wouldn't be coming back on a more *permanent basis*.

Those who do manage a night of passion in one of our rooms risk giving an unnervingly public performance. One unfortunate visitor was cheered on by a crowd sitting in the kitchen below.

Somehow, the need for a partner diminishes enormously when you have four companions on tap. I no longer fear arriving home alone at night, as I am bound to find someone slobbed out in front of a trashy film, waiting to hear about a *failed evening on the pull*.

Our latest idea is to have children together. This would ensure a permanent supply of baby-sitters and our careers could continue unimpeded. Our children would have friends to play with and no one need be a lonely single mother.

We have even contemplated finding one man to father them all — it would make a fascinating sociological experiment and save a lot of fiddling about. We haven't yet agreed on the right man, but we're *still taking offers*.

Why I want to save all the world's languages

Dr David Dalby has identified 10,000 living languages. Interview by **Bill Frost**

In Furu-awa, a tiny village on the border between Cameroon and Nigeria, an 87-year-old woman croons to herself in Bikya, a language she alone understands. Sometimes she cries. All those she once knew are dead. There is no one she can talk to in the tongue she learnt from her parents, no one left to teach.

In the next settlement along the frontier, Bishuo — the world's second-rarest language — faces extinction, too. A father and son, the last known speakers, have assimi*lated with their neighbours*; although remembering the old tongue, they have adopted a new linguistic identity.

But Bikya and *Bishuo* may not be lost forever. Dr David Dalby, an obsessive collector, has now established the world's most comprehensive register of extant languages and dialects — probably at the cost of his two marriages.

The old lady in Furu-awa will be captured on videotape, as will her near neighbours in the village along the border.

Globetrotting for 35 years in search of endangered tongues has left the Welsh academic *little time for home life* "and, of course, I regret that very much". Dr Dalby may have identified 10,000 "living languages", but when *he returns* home to Hebron, near Carmarthen, the house is empty.

Fascinating facts are his companions, he says sadly. "Two languages are spoken by more than a billion — Mandarin Chinese and English; at least ten others are now above 100 million: Hindi plus Urdu, Spanish, Russian, Bengali, Arabic, Malay plus Indonesian, Portuguese, Japanese, French and German."

Language has been his abiding passion, and preserving a multilingual world is now an obsession. Dr Dalby, 64, fears the rapid growth of English as a lingua franca.

"Monolingualism is as bad as illiteracy . . . it defies diversity," he says. "There is something very *sinister about* a group of upper-class English people who dominated the world in the days of Empire and then imposed their own language on subdued peoples.

"I learnt early on that these people can be cruel. Language can be a weapon. Once in upper-class company I said 'toilet' instead of 'lavatory'. The shame I felt at their reaction to my use of the language will live with me forever."

us100

His doctorate in *medieval* German was awarded by London University in 1960. Later, his lexicon of German *hunting terminology from* the same period was published.

"I have studied French, German and a bit of Dutch. I have also dipped into a *number of* African languages," he says with a modesty that denies his extraordinary fluency.

Lingo addict: David Dalby

Although the spread of English may threaten "small" languages, London itself is the language capital of the world, Dr Dalby admits. Almost one million schoolchildren in the capital are bilingual. Languages other than English are regularly spoken in 30 per cent of homes. Top of the list comes Bengali, followed by Gujarati, Punjabi and Hindi. Greek is the most popular western European language, while more households *speak* Portuguese than Italian.

"But, remember, we are not immune from language loss in *this country*. *Manx* and Cornish have gone as living languages. Of course, people get together in an attempt to revive the language, and that is admirable. But in my experience, they soon differ over some minor point of grammar and fall out badly."

His register — 1,600 pages long and growing all the time — *presents the world's languages* not as "a tower of Babel" but "as the interdependent and complementary components of a world system of communication".

This month, he presents his *findings to Unesco, the cultural* wing of the United Nations. "The timing is appropriate as efforts must be made to preserve diversity against the march of English."

Dr Dalby, who has been *helped by the School of Oriental* and African Studies and the University of Wales, sees a threat to the survival of "small" languages spoken by hunter-gatherers in the Arctic, Amazonia, south-west Africa and Australia. Without "artificial" help provided by Unesco and others, they could follow central Africa's Pygmy languages into extinction.

"The voice of the individual

community is not just a sound, it represents a unique experience, a unique culture. It is like a *fingerprint, there is no* duplicate anywhere else.

"Chinese, in its various forms, may be used by 1,123 *million* people, but Bikya and Bishuo are just as important to the continuum of human language around the globe.

"The independent nature of individual languages is an illusion, all are interdependent. Words, sounds and grammatical rules pass freely between languages."

Dr Dalby's crusade to preserve linguistic diversity is no dry academic exercise. He describes himself as "a bit of a visionary determined not to *classify humanity by the use of* any nation's flag".

He is furious that "huge amounts of money" are spent *exploring the surface of Mars* while our own planet's wealth of language remains unmapped and largely ignored.

"I have always been conscious of the unity of humanity," he says. "We are not individual souls. We live in what should be a harmonious, multilingual world.

"I am furious still at the suffering inflicted by those who sought to impose English language and culture on the rest of the world. How many tongues were destroyed because we felt we had a God-given *right to force uniformity* on others?

"There should be a retrospective tribunal, rather like the Nuremburg trials, to apportion blame for the death of peoples and their languages across North America and Australia. Pillory those *responsible* in the past and perhaps the future will be safe."

Dr Dalby is touchingly modest about his own accomplishments — his research has drawn many plaudits from fellow academics and is due to be released on CD-Rom with a *definitive computerised map* of world languages.

"I am in love with language and the magic of language. If a child says, 'I like that sound', he or she should be allowed to study that language. Since the *rest of the world has learnt our* language, we have a specific responsibility to learn and nurture theirs.

"The last line of my national anthem, 'Land of My Fathers', is 'May the old language live forever'; could there be any better motto for those who care about the wealth of living language in this world?"

■ Nigella Lawson is away

MEDIA

Michael Gove on the glossing over of the television news Pages 20-21

TOMORROW

CJD — an epidemic waiting to happen? Special report by Dr Thomas Stuttaford

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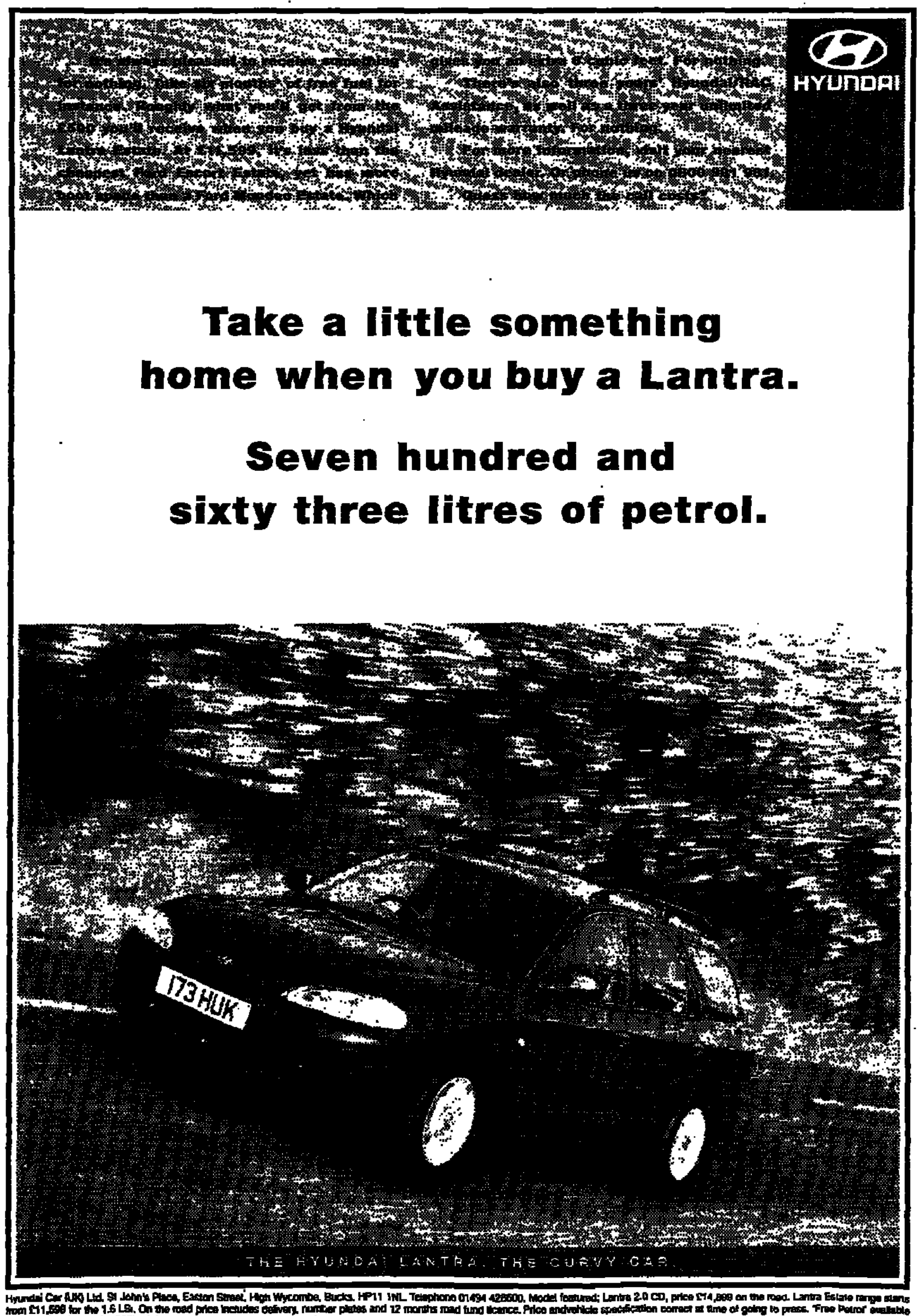

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Is this taking abridged too far?

With three shows in the West End, the Reduced Shakespeare Company must be doing something right. **Matt Wolf** reports

TONY WHITE

Cutting tall stories short: (clockwise from left) Reed Martin, who co-wrote and acts in the new RSC show, with fellow Bible performers Matt Rippy and Austin Tichenor

The Royal Shakespeare Company may have abandoned the Barbican for the summer, but this season there's another RSC company whose output suggests an empire all its own. On Friday, when the Reduced Shakespeare Company starts previews at the Gielgud with *The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged)*, the American comic vaudevillians will have three shows in the West End, a feat traditionally saved for the likes of Andrew Lloyd Webber, who is currently only one show ahead.

Over at the Criterion, the troupe has been ensconced for 17 months with *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*, an Olivier nominee for best comedy. Lest devotees of the only ensemble to put "abridged" after every title feel shortchanged, on Tuesdays the Criterion presents a third reductive effort — *The Complete History of America (abridged)*, in which we learn, among other things, that "grow a penis" is an anagram for Spiro Agnew.

Does this mini-industry represent too much of a good thing? For the audiences, evidently not: in a climate in which shows can topple like ninepins, this RSC has the resilience of a producer's dreams. "On a bad week, we do £20,000; in a normal week £30,000; if we do £40,000, we're popping champagne corks," says its co-producer, David Johnson. "Most West End shows could not run on that basis." Indeed, the company's tenure at the Criterion has done a lot to shift perceptions of that theatre as a West End graveyard. Patrick Marber wanted the playhouse for an autumn transfer of his National Theatre sellout, *Closer*, only to be told it wasn't available: the Yanks are here, and for a long haul.

"I'd love to be *The Mousetrap*," says the company's co-founder, Adam Long, speaking backstage on the day that the Shakespeare show notched up its 500th performance at the Criterion. "It's a fairly recent phenomenon that culture has become so disposable. There's a value to be had from doing the same things day after day after day; the insatiable appetite for that which is new is somewhat misplaced."

> ‘We're selling the short attention span’

A co-writer of the Bible show who will continue to perform in the other two evenings at the Criterion, Long, 36, recalls the troupe's ascendancy in Britain from its initial run in 1987 at a 60-seat venue in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

"We had come for the fun of it; we didn't think there was a career to be had. We had heard about the National Theatre of Brent at the Assembly Rooms, and here were these two middle-aged men in suits doing the same thing we were doing in a very calm and dignified way, and being absolutely hilarious about it. At that point, it started to dawn on us that it was possible to make a career out of our own peculiar, idiosyncratic rubbish."

That career has progressed apace over time, even if, as Bible performer and co-writer Reed Martin points out, "we make the bulk of our income outside the UK. In the public eye we're better-known in England, though there's much better money in America." With the America show, for example, Martin says the best response abroad has been in Singapore, while it is the Shakespeare show, perhaps inevitably, that resonates best in England.

"We do it the way people think three idiots from California would do it," says Martin, 37, who joined the RSC full-time during a Montreal stint in 1990. "We're selling the short attention span." Each show makes brevity the soul not just of wit, but of getting to the pub on time.

"Artistically, it's a natural thing that we should end up in London," says Long, who now lives here. Explaining "our own weird little aberrational niche", Long points to the fact that "Americans like their comedy big and clowny and with a big smile on your face as you do it; with the British, there has to be a little bit more of an element of self-awareness, of taking the piss as you do it". On tour in Lowestoft and Taunton, he has found the shows getting laughs he never expected: "When you come to these places as a guy who grew up in Hollywood, you just feel like you've come from another planet. Quaint little turns of phrase that are normal to you get a big laugh."

Still, isn't there a risk of the joke wearing thin: how many abridgements, after all, can the theatre withstand? "It's more a case of whether we just get bored doing it," says Long. Having contributed material to radio (*The Reduced Shakespeare Radio Show* for BBC World Service) and to Channel 4 (*The Ring Reduced*, a condensation of Wagner's *Ring* cycle in collaboration with composer Michael Berkeley), the troupe is looking to expand into stage musicals, TV, perhaps film.

They are currently writing *The Complete Encyclopedia (abridged)* for London Weekend Television, a sketch comedy series in which, says Martin, "we explain all knowledge in weekly half-hour chunks". Plans are brewing for the company's first musical, *The Complete Millennium (abridged)*, which will feature an actual plot as well as an outside composer. "Stephen Sondheim saw the Shakespeare show in New York," says Martin. "Perhaps just for the hell of it, we should give him a call."

For the moment Martin's task, together with fellow players Matt Rippy and Austin Tichenor, is to bring to the stories of Abraham, Samson and Noah (among others) the same loony irreverence that has had audiences at the Shakespeare show chanting "Maybe, maybe not" as they wave their arms above their heads. "I don't think we necessarily need to keep coming up with new shows," says Long. "Even if we never wrote anything else, our shelf-life could be these three shows. If I ended up just doing the Shakespeare show until I was 80, I would still die a happy person. Anything else we do is just icing on the cake."

- The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged) *previews from Friday at the Gielgud (0171-494 5066).* The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) *and* The Complete History of America (abridged) *continue at the Criterion (0171-369 1747).*

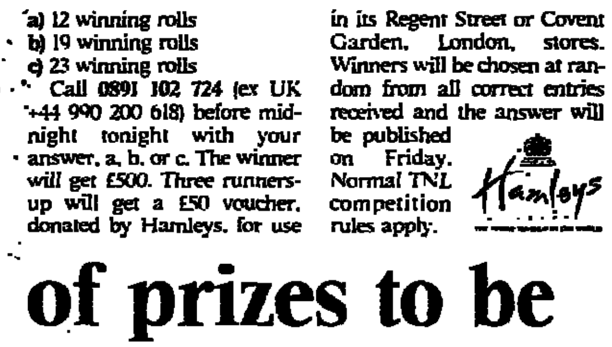
THE TIMES CHALLENGE OF THE MIND

To coincide with the first Mind Sports Olympiad, *The Times* invites you to test your wits with our Challenge of the Mind competition. Every day for two weeks we will be setting a range of puzzles to get you thinking. And we have £10,000 *worth of prizes to be won. For further* details of the Mind Sports Olympiad, at the Royal Festival Hall, London, from August 18 to 24, and how to enter, call 0171-703 2828.

£500 BACKGAMMON PROBLEM by Paul Lamford*

Today's puzzle is based on Backgammon, which is derived from the ancient race games such as Senat or Tau. A Tau board was discovered in the royal Tombs of Ur dating from about 3,000 BC. The modern game dates from about 1760 and the introduction of the doubling dice, in the US in the 1930s, increased the level of skill substantially. In Britain about 20 million households have a board. The object of the game is to move *all your checkers around the* board and then take them off, always moving according to the rolls of the dice. Two dice are rolled per turn and the main strategy is to block your opponents checkers because they may not move onto a point occupied by two or more enemy checkers. The other important rule is that if a solitary checker is landed on by an opposing checker, it is sent to the *bar* and must start its journey again.

The final stages of a game of backgammon are in progress in the diagram. White is moving clockwise and Black is moving anticlockwise and the home boards, from which the players bear off, are marked. Black is on roll and is contemplating making the first double of the game by turning the dice to 2 thereby doubling the stakes (the dice traditionally starts with the face showing 64 uppermost). *To win,* Black will have to bear off his last two men with the next roll; if he does not, White is certain to win next turn whatever he rolls. Black needs to calculate. There are 36 possible different rolls of the two dice: if more than 18 of them win for him he should double; if less than 18 win he is an underdog and should not double. How many winning rolls does Black have?



a) 12 winning rolls
b) 19 winning rolls
c) 23 winning rolls

Call 0891 102 724 (ex UK +44 990 200 618) before midnight tonight with your answer, a, b, or c. The winner *will get £500. Three runners-*up will get a £50 voucher, donated by Hamleys, for use in its Regent Street or Covent Garden, London, stores. Winners will be chosen at random from all correct entries received and the answer will be published on Friday. Normal TNL competition rules apply.

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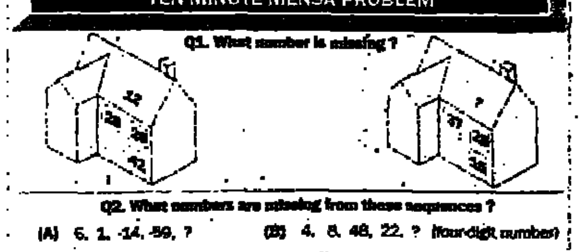
TEN MINUTE MENSA PROBLEM

Q1. What number is missing ?



Q2. What numbers are missing from these sequences ?

(A) 6, 1, -14, -59, ?
(B) 4, 8, 48, 22, ? (four-digit number)

Q3. What number is missing from the sum below ?

```
 D A M        A I L
+8 8 7       +? ? ?
 L I T        G O T
```

There's £100 to be won today with this ten-minute Mensa teaser. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received by midnight tonight. *Call 0891 102 725* (ex UK +44 990 200 619). 0891 calls cost 50p per minute

All readers who get two or three of today's Mensa puzzles correct will receive a certificate and a Mensa information pack which includes a home IQ assessment test.

*Paul Lamford is a former editor of *Games and Puzzles* magazine and is currently commissioning editor of chess and bridge for Batsford Books

DAY 1 (MONDAY) SOLUTIONS.

Scrabble: UNDERLAY for 89 points (double-letter score and triple-word score for 39 points plus 50 points for using all seven letters). D Weaver of Cowes, Isle of Wight, wins £500. **Mensa Problem:** 1a 83 – multiply the previous number by 3 and subtract 4 (29x3 minus 4 is 83). 1b 122 – multiply the previous number by 2 and add 6 (58x2 plus 6 is 122). 2 Racing, Arcing, Caring. 3 Two possible answers: a) 4 – right hand x left foot (84) minus left hand x right foot (80) OR b) 132 – 1st drawing: (6x9) minus (11-8) is 51. Second drawing: (20x7) minus (12-4) is 132. G Plowman of Wellingborough, Northants, wins £100.

TOMORROW: PLAY GO FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN MORE PRIZES

Macbeth as a regular assegai

Umabatha
Globe

Shakespeare is African! *So said* Welcome Msomi, the creator of this rousing version of *Macbeth*, on opening night; and nobody in the audience looked inclined to argue with him, still less with the warriors stamping in agreement behind him. His Johannesburg Civic Theatre company had put more energy into a curtain call than some put into *Macbeth* itself — and that, surely, is the way Shakespeare would have wished it.

Umabatha transposes *Macbeth* from the land of withered hags, dirks and kilts to that of *dancing sorceresses with* beaded hair and leopard-skin robes. This is 19th-century Zululand, home of Thabani Tshanini's Mabatha, who is pushed by his wife, Dieketseng Mnisi's Kamadonsela, into murdering Dangane, in Lawrence Masondo's performance the nation's towering, genial chieftain. The invasion that unseats him comes from Swaziland, not England, but in key respects the story is the familiar one.

In other words, anyone who knows the original would have no trouble following events in Zulu, even without the surtitles sporadically flashing from their anachronistic positions on the Globe's balconies. From these we learn that *Mabatha sees a spectral assegai*, not a dagger, which explains why Tshanini doesn't just grab at it, but leaps three feet in the air towards it. But I cannot confirm whether Mnisi bids her breasts "wither with serpents' water", or Skbumbuzo Nsele's drunken porter talks of a farmer who hanged himself after irrigating his land by urinating on it, as their counterparts did when *Umabatha* visited London in the 1970s.

Msomi evokes a world where magic, laughter and violence co-exist in what I'm tempted to call a Jacobean fashion. The large, bold emotions are similarly apt. Mnisi puts so much gleeful ferocity into her voice and gestures *that, when she speaks about* dashing out her baby's brains, you can imagine the tot bouncing off the floor. As for Tshanini, he beams and swaggers with the joy of power and, when Banquo appears from the grave, his panic is extreme.

In other words, the production proves well suited to a packed O open to the sky; and never more than when the cast is jumping, somersaulting, drumming its feet, banging shields and weapons, ritually keening, or doing whatever evokes a victory celebration or state funeral. The dancing is wonderful and, it seems, unstoppable. In Scotland, Banquo's ghost appears twice before it breaks up Macbeth's feast. Here, the party only shows signs of going off after he has stalked on three times. *That says something both* about Zulu civilisation and this exhilarating company.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

BBC PROMS: Russians rule with bells and gong; plus a baffling premiere

Simple spirits

RSNO/Lazarev
Albert Hall/Radio 3

THE Last Night of the Proms came early this year. On *Sunday*, *Alexander Lazarev* led the audience in a clap-along — they needed little enough encouragement — to a Highland fling of an encore from the Royal Scottish National Orchestra.

Up to that point the programme had been solely, though inventively, Russian. Glinka was represented by the *little-known* Capriccio Brillante on the *Jota Aragonesa* (Spanish Overture No 1), Tchaikovsky by his symphonic fantasia *Francesca da Rimini*, and Giya Kancheli — not previously heard at a Prom — by his Symphony No 3 (UK premiere).

Kancheli may be a new name to the Proms, but the Georgian composer is already something of a cult hit among those who seek spiritual meaning in simplicity. The Third Symphony begins with a solo voice intoning a lamenting, folk-inspired melody — an idea that returns at intervals, *and which is implicit* even when not sounded. The countertenor David James here had the difficult task, executed competently, of *sounding* those few notes in the void.

There is much use of bells, a gong and celestially sustained strings, all punctuated by loud brass and percussion outbursts. An atmosphere is undoubtedly conjured, and perhaps a certain spirituality, but ultimately this music doesn't go anywhere. Rather, *as Schnittke once put it, one* experiences "a period of endlessness that passes by like a cloud".

A "new simplicity" of a different kind is evident in Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 2 *in G minor.* Where Kancheli's minimal gestures — conceived in the 1970s — have tapped a popular vein in recent years, Prokofiev was deliberately seeking a more ingratiating idiom for his Soviet public. *Tasmin Little*, playing with supreme confidence in front of an audience that adores her, exuded sweetness in her lyrical phrasing and fingertip delicacy.

The orchestra and Lazarev, *its new principal conductor*, came into their own in the colourful Glinka overture and in Tchaikovsky's darkly passionate portrayal of forbidden love.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Encore, maestro

[illegible]

IN A season producing some exciting Proms premieres, one of the most memorable will surely be Roger Reynolds's *The Red Act Arias*, a BBC commission unveiled on Monday. It will probably also remain one of the most baffling, but its massive 45-*minute span ruled out the* possibility of a helpful repeat performance.

Indeed, it was only towards its well worked-out conclusion that the score's time-scale became clear: on its own, the *opening movement sounded* dense and unwieldy. Reynolds, an American avant-gardist new to the Proms, is not an "easy" composer. As befits someone who studied physics, his works are technically *innovative, and in The Red Act Arias he* continues to use computers to find new sounds and new emotions in familiar musical material.

Beneath its formidable complexities, *The Red Act Arias* is a quasi-dramatic work of deep emotion: with Euripides and *Aeschylus texts that* recall the explosive relationship of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra, it could hardly be anything else. Each of the three movements, or "arias", is preceded by spoken narration (Harriet Walter), but it is the choir (the indomitable BBC Singers) that carries the burden, often singing as one voice in the manner of a Greek chorus. They have a lot to contend with from a large orchestra and computer-mixed sounds; co-ordination between mixing table and orchestra may not have been totally precise, but Leonard Slatkin shaped a strong, confident performance.

The piece was written with the Albert Hall in mind, and *loudspeakers* encircled the arena so that electronic effects "travelled" around the space. Although some of the rumblings and guttural groaning seemed stuck in the 1970s, there were many haunting *moments in the second and* third movements, with washes of dreamlike sound and coiling solos evoking desolation and hopelessness.

Reynolds shared the programme with Mahler's *Blumine*. Slatkin was compelling in both works and, if the BBC Symphony Orchestra had not apparently been suffering from an early case of Proms fatigue, the results might have been overwhelming.

JOHN ALLISON

[illegible]

Simon Tait on the Dartington International Summer School — 50 years old and still counting

Of big fish and tiddlers

KATE MOUNT

Going home in an ambience: music-makers at the Dartington International Summer School pursue their muse al fresco

The 79-year-old violin virtuoso Ruggiero Ricci is giving a young man the benefit of his lifetime's experience. "Vibrato!" Ricci exclaims. "Vibrato, vibrato, vibrato! Gotta have a neon light in your head alla time tells you 'Vibrato!'" In another room in the same building, a glorious crash announces the first grappling with Respighi by the Hackney Youth Orchestra: 30 teenagers who know they will never be pros, but come to the Dartington International Summer School every year. "We can talk to anyone, go anywhere — masterclasses, concerts — and we're just one of them," says 15-year-old Terence McDermott, who plays the viola. "It makes you want to try harder, practise more, get better."

In many ways, he has summed up the *raison d'être* of the summer school, not much different now from when it began 50 summers ago. Back then, the pianist Artur Schnabel had been impressed by the new Edinburgh Festival created by John Christie and Rudolph Bing, but thought that musicians of all standards should be part of the postwar cultural regeneration, ideally in the sort of campus Kokoschka had set up for painters in Salzburg.

Schnabel asked his pupil, William Glock, to be artistic director of his people's festival, and friends such as Imogen Holst, Elizabeth Lutyens and Dorothy and Leonard Elmhirst helped to set up the first summer school. Initially, it was held at Bryanston School, but five years later it moved to Dartington, where the Elmhirsts had established their school and a college of arts.

John Amis became the manager. He recruited music students to build stages, shift instruments and put up posters. They became known as "trogs", because they seemed to appear magically from holes in the ground, and Amis asked his old prep school chum Donald Swann to organise them. Swann was also allowed to try out the ideas he and Michael Flanders came up with, and one of their little late-night cabarets was called *At the Drop of a Hat* ...

In 1957 Stravinsky came. He sailed to Plymouth, counted his 20 bags of luggage into the Elmhirsts' ancient Daimler and, when they arrived at Dartington, found there were only 19. The missing one, containing his current work including the only manuscript of *Agon*, had been left on the quay.

Britten's *Rape of Lucretia* was written for Dartington, but John Christie asked the Elmhirsts if it could be used to reopen Glyndebourne, and they agreed. Next year the current artistic director, Gavin Henderson, hopes to get it on at Dartington at long last.

That is, if there is a Dartington Summer School next year. Each time it becomes more difficult to raise the £1 million needed to run the school, and the 1997 gathering is only taking place because of the new sponsorship of the Hong Kong-based Poo Shing Woo Foundation.

There are other sponsors, but the artists, such as Ricci, who teach and perform for a fraction of what they can normally demand, are the real underwriters. The courses are always oversubscribed, so that the four-week school which once fitted neatly into August has had to become five weeks, and next year will be six.

"Each year," says Ricci, "the level is higher, and the ambience is so good here. Could you do it anywhere else? I don't think so. I have 18 students this time, aged nine to 30, and they are all talented, all will be soloists."

Thomas Hemsley runs the advanced opera course. "What you get here is a bit of what's missing in opera elsewhere," he says. "It's the feeling of ensemble. Companies are not supporting young performers properly. Here we study intensively the words and music, and concentrate totally on that without being distracted by all the other elements of opera production."

Henderson took over from Sir Peter Maxwell Davies 13 years ago, and since then the summer school has opened out to include dance, jazz, *flamenco*, *film*, *drama*, computer composition, even rock music, but with still the same mix of amateurs, students and pros, 300 at a time.

"It's a judicial blend of talents," says Henderson, "a chemistry it is almost impossible to explain. American and Japanese visitors don't understand that people with such different standards can come together."

He calls the summer school a garden of errors, a seed bed where things germinate and sometimes grow into a Mark Elder, a Harrison Birtwistle or the Amadeus String Quartet — all alumni — but might not. "I think the rest of the world is waking up," Henderson says. "Performance is going to change radically, people are going to be able to make music as they did before the war."

The lute player Anthony Rooley is producing a political opera, *Albion and Albanius*, written by John Dryden and Louis Grabu in 1685 which, as far as anyone can tell, will receive its world premiere in the Dartington Great Hall tomorrow. "It's absurd to try to produce a three-and-a-half hour opera from scratch in ten days, but something comes over you here," he says. "Things that couldn't possibly be *done anywhere* else are suddenly possible."

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

JOSEPH PHIBBS

Age: 23.

Occupation: Composer. You can hear his songs and incidental music in the New Shakespeare Company's production of *Watership Down*, which runs from now until August 23 at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre.

How did it all begin? The son of professional actors, Phibbs took piano lessons from the age of five, "then at ten I just started composing. No one suggested it, but it's the only thing I really wanted to do."

Education? A Suffolk County Council scholarship propelled him to the Purcell School at Harrow, "the most important thing to happen to me". Then a BMus at King's College London, where he was taught by Harrison Birtwistle. "That was a fantastic surprise. He got me to think for myself, and gave me the encouragement to work through things on my own." He wrote a 15-minute piece, *Soirée*, for the BBC Symphony Orchestra, which was later broadcast. The Duke Quartet premiered his string quartet at the Cheltenham Festival in 1994.

Priorities when not working with rabbits? "I'm basically trying to develop a modernist, non-tonal style of my own. The composers who mean most to me are Birtwistle, Elliott Carter, Varèse and late Stravinsky."

What next? On August 20 he goes to Cornell University in America to begin a five-year doctorate: "But I'll be back as often as possible to keep my career going here."

His agenda? "To have the time to get more pieces written, in an isolated rural environment where I can really focus on the things in my music which concern me. I also want to listen to more music, particularly American music, and study more scores and really get to grips with instrumentation."

Long-term ambitions? "To be commissioned to write the type of music I really want to write. And, most important, to get good performances. And to be able to survive."

HILARY FINCH

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

BBC PROMS Trevor Pinnock conducts the **Choir of the English Concert** and the **English Concert** in a period-instrument rendition of Bach's Mass in B minor. With Susan Chilcott, soprano, Catherine Wyn-Rogers, mezzo-soprano, John Mark Ainsley, tenor, and Gerald Finley, bass
Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tonight, 7.30pm

LIAM ABRAMSON The popular cellist gives a free lunchtime rendition of Rachmaninov's Sonata, Op 19, and [illegible]
St Martin-within-Ludgate Church Ludgate Hill, EC4 (0171-248 6054). Today, 1.15pm

CARNABY STREET New musical by James Hall: the psychedelic 1960s, a working-class musician and his upper-class groupie. Love and the rising aristocracy of rock. Directed by Terry John Bates
Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 3334). Previews tonight, 7.30pm and 9.30pm. Opens tomorrow, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm and 9.30pm. Until August 23

THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT Counterpoint Theatre Company presents Paul Prescott's new play: a disparate family returns to the family home for Christmas and takes in Fletcher, a New Age traveller and sometime gardener who takes up residence in the house's battered greenhouse. Chris Banfield directs
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (0181-741 2255). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Tues-Sun, 7.45pm. *Until August 24* ♿

A LOT OF LIVING Ballantine Theatre Productions presents a revue featuring 40 songs by the Broadway composer Charles Strouse, whose work includes *Bye Bye Birdie, Applause* and *Annie*. Directed by Barbara Siman
Jermyn Street, 16b Jermyn Street, SW1 (0171-287 2875). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Tues-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat and Sun, 4pm

ELSEWHERE

ALDEBURGH The virtuosic and versatile **Los Angeles Guitar Quartet** travels from the Harrogate International Festival to perform Falla's *El Amor Brujo*, Kanengiser's arrangement of Bizet's *Carmen Suite* and the Allegro from Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 3. The vibrantly colourful Hispanic-American programme includes works by *Boccherini, Sousa and Count Basie*
Snape Maltings Concert Hall (01728 453543). Tonight, 7.30pm

Kathleen Turner treads the boards in Chichester

EDINBURGH In the run-up to the *International Festival and Fringe*, Only Human Theatre Company presents **Tomorrow is a Lovely Day**, Stephen Sharkey's tribute to the life and work of the late Dennis Potter. Directed by Erica Whyman. In addition, the company will give four performances only of Potter's *Blue Remembered Hills*, at 2pm on consecutive Thursdays from tomorrow
Pleasance, *60 The Pleasance (0131-556 6550)*. Previews today, 2pm. Opens Fri, 2pm. Then Mon-Wed and Fri-Sun (except August 11 and 26), 2pm.

CHICHESTER Kathleen Turner makes her debut here in Somerset Maugham's wittily critical look at the British aristocracy, **Our Betters**, directed by Michael Rudman. The cast includes Rula Lenska and Nigel Davenport
Festival, Oaklands Park (01243 781312). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm. Opens August 12, 7.30pm. In *rep until September 27*

LONDON GALLERIES

Brunel: Chinese Textiles from the *Asia Bequest* (0171-627 2388) **Duncan Campbell**: Francis Farmar: Paintings of Australia and Great Britain (0171-937 5665) **Gallery West**: Music 100 (0171-418 2782) ***Llewellyn Alexander***: *Not the Royal* Academy 1997 (0171-620 1322) **Lisson**: Jason Martin (0171-724 2739) **National**: Seurat and the Bathers (0171-747 2885) **The Photographers' Gallery**: On Hong Kong: Ryuji Miyamoto, Yau Leung (0171-831 1772) **Royal Academy**: 229th Summer Exhibition (0171-439 7438) **Tate**: Piet Mondrian: Nature to Abstraction (0171-887 8000) **Tom Blau**: Adults in Wonderland: Grace Lau (0171-378 1300)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
▨ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL**: Frances Cuka plays the Countess and Nigel Planer is Parolles in Helena Kaut-Howson's production of a sometimes merry Shakespeare
Open Air, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431). Tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. In rep with A Midsummer Night's Dream

☐ **GUYS AND DOLLS** The Olivier returns to its original shape for the revival of Richard Eyre's revival. Exhilarating stuff
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2pm

☐ **THE HERBAL BED** Peter Whelan's fascinating play. Kate Duchêne plays Shakespeare's daughter and Christopher Hunter her Puritan inquisitor
Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. Until October 4

☐ **THE MAIDS** Niamh Cusack and Kerry Fox play the title roles, with Josette Simon as their adored and hated mistress, in Genet's over-heated but sometimes compelling drama of obsession. John Crowley directs
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 4pm

☐ ***MARLENE***: Siân Phillips gives an attractive performance as the singer with the golden sheath dress. On the whole, more successful than Pam Gems's play.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **POPCORN**, Ben Elton's blistering comedy about movie violence. A Tarantinoesque director gets his comeuppance when a couple of serial killers (great playing by Patrick O'Kane and Dena Davis) blame him for their *misdeeds*. *Laurence Boswell directs.*
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 4pm

☐ ***PYGMALION*** *Ray Cooney the* unexpected choice as director of Shaw's drama. With Roy Marsden, Michael Elphick, Moray Watson, Barbara Murray and Marcia Warren. And Carli Norris, straight from RADA, playing Eliza.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs 3pm, Sat, 4.30pm

☐ **SIDE BY SIDE BY SONDHEIM** Summer show celebrating the man. Kathryn Evans, Lisa Sadovy, David Melak make up the regular cast, with *Dawn French until August 2, the first of* a sequence of guest MCs. Matthew Francis directs
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until September 6 ♿

☐ **SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE**: Subtitled "The Songs of Leiber and Stoller". Hit Broadway compilation show celebrating a successful songwriting team, responsible for *Hound Dog*, *Jailhouse Rock* and *Spanish Harlem*
Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm

☐ **UMABATHA**. Nine performances only of the Zulu Macbeth. The Johannesburg Civic Theatre's production of Welcome Msomi's hurtling version
Shakespeare's Globe, New Globe Walk, Bankside, SE1 (0171-401 9919). Mon-Sat, 7pm; mats Tue, Thurs and Sat, 2pm. Until August 9

■ ***WAITING FOR GODOT*** *Peter Hall* who directed the British premiere in 1955, directs Alan Howard and Ben Kingsley in a revival of Beckett's first and finest drama
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616). Tonight, 7.30pm. In rep

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) ▨ **Buddy**: Strand (0171-930 8800) ▨ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Criterion (0171-369 1737) ☐ **Jesus Christ Superstar**: Lyceum (0171-656 1807) ☐ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) ☐ ***The Mousetrap***: *St Martin's (0171-836 1443)* ☐ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) ▨ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where *indicated* with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **ADDICTED TO LOVE** (15): Matthew Broderick and Meg Ryan as spurned lovers who turn Peeping Toms
Greenwich (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: *Kensington*** *(0181-315 4214)* ***Marble*** **Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

BAPS (15): Brassy girls make good in LA. Crass comedy aimed at aspiring urban blacks, with Halle Berry and Natalie Desselle
Ritzy (0171-737 2121) **Virgin *Trocadero*** (0171-434 0031)

◆ **MEN IN BLACK** (PG): Hip blockbuster about aliens in Manhattan, with Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith. Director, Barry Sonnenfeld.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (0171-727 6705) ***Odeons: Camden Town*** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) ***Fulham Road*** (0171-370 2636)

CURRENT

◆ **BATMAN & ROBIN** (PG): Schwarzenegger's Mr Freeze tries to hold Gotham to ransom. Exhausting epic, with George Clooney, Chris O'Donnell and Uma Thurman. Director, Joel Schumacher
Odeon Marble Arch *(0181-315 4216)* **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **CRASH** (18): David Cronenberg explores the connection between car crashes and sex. Chilly exercise in perversity, from J.G. Ballard's novel. With James Spader and Holly Hunter
NFT (0171-928 3232)

INTIMATE RELATIONS (15): Tiresome black comedy set in 1950s Britain, with Julie Walters and Rupert Graves. Director, Philip Goodhew
ABC Shaftesbury Avenue *(0171-836 6279)* **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

◆ **LADY AND THE TRAMP** (U): *Disney's 1955 cartoon revived, bland,* but with a faint canine charm
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343) **Watermans** (0181-568 1176)

MICROCOSMOS (U): Astonishing French field trip to the world of insects, filmed with microscopic photography
ABC Panton Street (0171-930 0631) ***Richmond*** *(0181-332 0030)*

◆ **ONE FINE DAY** (15): Two single parents juggle kids and careers. Beguiling comedy with George Clooney *and Michelle Pfeiffer. Director, Michael* Hoffman
Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **SWINGERS** (15): Foibles and fumblings of male twentysomethings in LA. Fresh independent movie from Doug Liman, written by lead actor Jon Favreau
Gate ♿ (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) ***Ritzy*** *(0171-737 2121)* **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

WHEN WE WERE KINGS (PG): Joyous Oscar-winning portrait of the *boxer Muhammad Ali, as he fights* George Foreman in 1974. Director, Leon Gast
Everyman ♿ (0171-435 1525) **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

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Alan Coren

I could have been a smouldering young blade, but it's been too much of a fag

I could not have ignited my shirt at a more propitious time. Especially as it was a glamorous shirt, with a fashionable little horse embroidered on it. And if a bonus were needed, I could have asked for nothing better than the double-header whereby, when the fire started, I was sitting, wearing my glamorous sunglasses, in my glamorous red convertible.

I was wearing my sunglasses, mind, not, primarily, to look glamorous, I was wearing them because the convertible's hood was glamorously down, and under these circumstances, sparks from the cigarette which added a foxy grace-note to this glamorous symphony could have been whipped into my eyes by the wind, whereupon all this glamour would have brought me the stardom it deserved: I should have got my big break on the evening news, as a sheeted corpse on the grass verge of the A41.

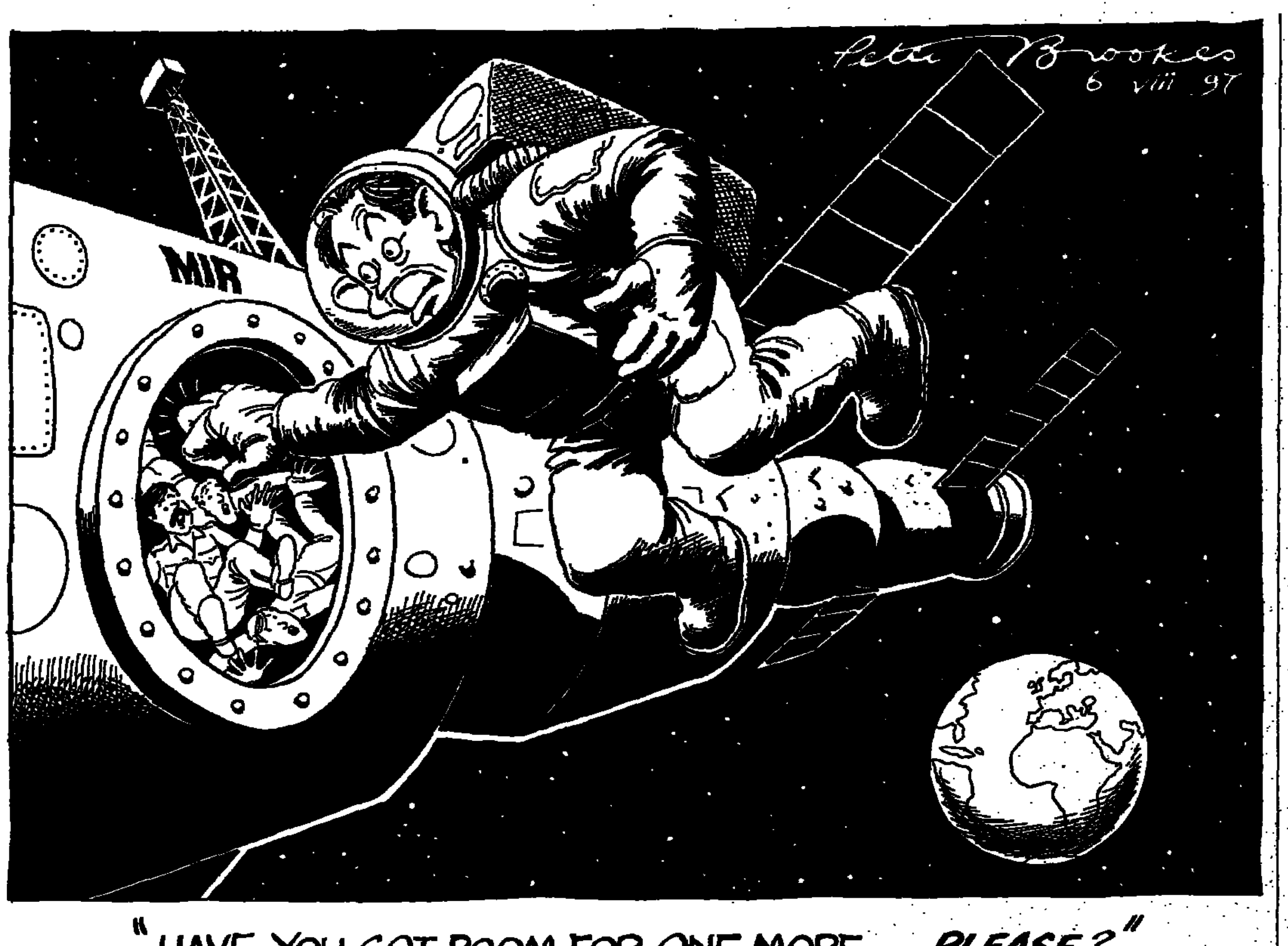
So the sparks did not blow into my eyes. They blew onto my shirt. I did not realise this until I got out at the rendezvous for which all this glamour had been punctiliously co-ordinated and adjusted my glamorous spotted silk tie in the rear-view mirror. I found not only that my shirt had half a dozen charred holes in it, but also that the pattern on the spotted silk tie had become irregular. Which left me, as I sidled into lunch behind the glamorous panama held over my chest, with a lot of unglamorously sheepish explaining to do.

Why on earth, you cry, does he call this time propitious? I do so because the fire occurred last Saturday, and on the very next day the newspapers were packed to the gunwales with complaints by the Health Education Authority that style magazines were promoting tobacco as a top accessory. "Showing role models with cigarettes in poses that look cool," it cried, "reinforces the message that smoking is glamorous." The HEA was going spare, it was chewing the end of its tether, it had no idea what to do to buck this appalling trend. It did not know — until today — that all it had to do was ask.

Because there is nobody more qualified than I to mastermind an HEA counterblast targeted on the unglamorousness of cigarettes. Thirty times a day for the past 40 years, ie, on some 440,000 occasions, I have run the risk of those humiliating blows to *amour propre* that only the serious smoker experiences. I have diced with the utterly unglamorous, and I have in consequence sunk so often to the lowest depths of the uncool as to have accumulated a range of situation, plot, character, and moral pay-off fit to keep regiments of HEA propagandists scribbling round the clock to adapt the stuff into posters, jingles, films, slogans, and any other outlet aimed at discouraging the weed.

Take, for example, this engaging billboard showing a young blade simpering seductively as he passes to a lissome girl the fag he has just lit for her: is his simper not somewhat marred by the trickle of blood beneath it, which matches the stain on the fag that had so unfortunately stuck to his lip? How about this little film of a cool dude in a Ferrari, turning at traffic lights to ogle the svelte driver in the car beside him? Why is he now frantically grabbing at his groin? Because his cigar was long and his window was shut, and the snapped-off end has fallen between his legs and is currently burrowing hotly into the white hide of man and car alike. The cool dude has become an uncool dud. As has, oh look, this briefly more successful Lothario, lighting his macho Zippo in the post-coital darkness beside a non-smoker whose pillowed tresses suddenly go up in flames. Lucky there is Krug to hand to douse her? Sadly no, for in grabbing frantically at the magnum, that hand will knock her bedside radio to the floor, alerting the landlady beneath, a martinet so averse to nookie as to have framed the lease in such a way that in the closing shot the glamorous couple are seen huddled naked in the sleet, waiting for their chic Armani threads to start flying out of the window.

I'm rather surprised that, given all this, New Tony has not already addressed it, for who must shudder more than he at smoking's gravest risk? Any day now, I expect to see every packet carrying a government warning that smoking can seriously damage your glamour.



"HAVE YOU GOT ROOM FOR ONE MORE... *PLEASE?*"

The bards of the byrger

Much of the National Eisteddfod may be laughably bogus — but it is still an occasion with significant cultural clout

Simon Jenkins

The scene is from Walter Mitty. A man sitting in a marquee in a damp North Wales field hears his name called out in Welsh. A spotlight picks out Cen Williams, an academic from Anglesey, who stands up looking bemused. Suddenly an Arch-Druid dressed like a Pope descends on him carrying a wand and attended by acolytes. Mr Williams is draped in a purple gown and transported to the stage. There he is set upon a throne and is crowned with a silver crown. Girls with flowers in their hair dance before him, celestial harps play behind and a maiden presents him with the fabled Horn of Hirlas. An ode is sung in his honour.

Then the Arch-Druid raises a vast sword over Mr Williams's head and cries: "*A oes heddwch?*" (Is there peace?) "*Heddwch!*" shouts the audience. For a moment all talk of a Welsh referendum ceases. There is peace. For this, so far, is Wales's only assembly. It is the National Eisteddfod, meeting this week in the heart of Welsh Wales in Bala. The significant is never far removed from the absurd.

The tribal ceremonies of the peoples of the British Isles are bewilderingly vulgar. I once attended a banquet in London which was interrupted by Scots pipers marching round the tables, going full blast in bearskins and kilts. An Italian next to me assumed it was a terrifying student prank. When I reassured him he replied: "But I thought our Julius Caesar had helped you wipe out these people." As for the English, any function involving the House of Lords, the Anglican Church or Oxford University can reduce the irreverent to uncontrollable giggles.

The Welsh Eisteddfod takes the palm. It is a Booker Prize ceremony set in Stonehenge with a cast from *Die Meistersinger*. The eisteddfod itself is extremely ancient, dating from 1176 and probably the oldest arts festival in Europe. The institution at its heart, however, the Gorsedd, originated as a Welsh branch of the Ancient Order of Druids. These are complete phoneys, founded in 1717 in London. Not until the 19th century did the druidical fiction come to the eisteddfod. How Welsh culture was hijacked by this freemasonry of ministers, teachers and librarians in capes and white boots is a mystery.

For all that, the eisteddfod is impressive. Of the half million Welsh people fluent in the native language, a fifth may visit the festival during the week. I find it eerie to wander round a packed site in the midst of Great Britain and be surrounded by people speaking a language of which I know virtually nothing. Since 1937 the eisteddfod has refused to permit a word of English at the festival or its fringe. This year they even banned Wales's foremost rock bank, Gorky, who refused to sing only in Welsh. Even fast-food stalls must make up such pseudo-Welsh names as "byrgers". Nor is there a decent bookstall, as if nothing in English had ever advanced the Welsh cause and as if Dylan Thomas and R.S. Thomas never existed. Yet despite this ferocious exclusion, of tourists and of the four-fifths of the people of Wales who speak only English, it can still pack a cultural punch. The Edinburgh Festival is merely a set of arts events staged in Scotland. The eisteddfod is a competitive olympiad dedicated to literature and song in one cultural tradition. The rules for the 24-beat metre used in the poetic form of the *cynghanedd* were laid down in 1450 and are still honoured by (at the last count) some 500 practitioners. This year's winner of the bardic crown won it for an ode to a character in the *Mabinogion*, the tragic Branwen. There are competitions for Welsh lyric poetry, music, dancing, drama crafts and recitation.

For any people to honour its identity, not by ethnic cleansing, bombing or civil disobedience, but by chairing its poets and celebrating its singers is surely laudable. Laudable too is that these celebrations should not take place in a capital, under the aegis of the regional authority. The eisteddfod is held in a different town each year. It is visited not just by Wales's stage army of educationists and officials, but by farmers, shopkeepers, bankers and ministers. The concept of the peripatetic cultural parliament — however self-appointed — is truly popular, and unique to Wales.

The eisteddfod is, of course, political. Its politics are that of language. As elsewhere in Europe, language is a proxy for group identity and a means for excluding outsiders. The eisteddfod is a platform for the Welsh Language Society, a front for Plaid Cymru, itself founded at an eisteddfod in 1925. The Gorsedd had long led the forward charge to get English taxes to support the Welsh language. In 1967 equal status was granted on forms and signs. In 1982 a television channel was devoted to Welsh, conceded like most Tory gestures only after threats of violence and a hunger strike from the Welsh Nationalist leader, Gwynfor Evans.

This is a synthetic success for Welsh culture, relying on massive positive discrimination. The survival of Welsh is in truth a gift of the English state. Anyone with a passable knowledge of Welsh can today get a job with the Government or the BBC. The number of children proficient in Welsh is even said to be rising. But withdraw the subsidies and Welsh would surely resume the downward slide it saw throughout this century, having lasted so long only through its identity with religious Nonconformity. It is one thing to support the study of a language as "heritage", another to force it on reluctant English-speaking Welsh at their considerable cost. Welsh Channel 4 is the world's most expensive minority channel.

This year, however, Welsh politics faces a different predicament, the determination of most of the Cardiff Establishment to have their new assembly. Next month's referendum has a mountain to climb to reverse the 80 per cent vote against such an assembly in 1979. The outcome is not a foregone conclusion. Unlike in Scotland or London, constitutional reform is not a matter of consensus in Wales. Not only are the Welsh Tories opposed, but so is much of rural Wales and many Labour stalwarts, from Lord Tonypandy to Llew Smith.

The case remains evenly balanced. There is already a Welsh administration. There is a Welsh Office in Cardiff and a superstructure of 150 appointed quangos, some of them notoriously corrupt. There is a Welsh dimension for regional government distinct from England. That this government should lack democratic focus is ostensibly outrageous. Wales may not have been a constitutional nation, like Scotland. But it is a people. Across Europe, cultural and demographic continuity have been reason enough for self-rule.

Against this theory must be set the likely practice. Despite its detractors, the proposed Welsh assembly is not merely a talking shop. It would control more than £7 billion of resources, notably those flowing into economic development, education, health, the arts and local government. Sixty assembly members, with Labour strongly in the majority, would have discretion over huge amounts of money.

Wales is not a coherent political entity. The gulf between south and north is wide. The north is becoming Merseyside-on-Sea and much of central Wales is a home from home for the Midlands. The assembly will exacerbate existing divisions between north and south, English and Welsh, locals and newcomers. It will put at risk the cultural identity that has come, in small part, from the eisteddfod tradition. Worse, it could introduce politics into that identity, and raise unpleasant questions. What price a monoglot eisteddfod when an English-speaking assembly is doling out the subsidies?

The principle is clear: regions with a coherent sense of self should be free to choose devolved self-government. For Wales to need ministers, officials and subsidies ordained from London is humiliating. It is the nanny state gone geographical. If the Welsh want their assembly, they must be entitled to it, whether or not others think it in their best interest. But I have a premonition. The hard grafters of Cardiff will want things their way. They have long put the pork barrel and the planning permit before the odes of Branwen. They do not speak Welsh and prefer not to be reminded of the fact. Time may come when the jovial bards of Bala, leaders of a still significant British culture, will look back on 1997 as a blessed memory.

Spinning out of control

Bruce Anderson on the hubris of Peter Mandelson

If Peter Mandelson died today, he would already have achieved an immortality. He not only invented Tony Blair; he reinvented the Labour Party. Then he brought the two together. Over the past decade, no British politician has been more influential. Without Mr Mandelson there might have been a Labour Government, but it would have had neither a huge majority nor the vaulting hegemonic arrogance.

But as is apparent from the events of the past few days, Mr Mandelson is in danger of becoming a major obstacle to his own ambitions. He has a problem; he has the defects of his qualities.

Peter Mandelson's principal assets are fear, distrust and ruthlessness. He is afraid of the Tories, the most formidable of all democratic parties, and capable of recovering from adversity. He distrusts Labour, whose internal divisions and unpopular policies have so often assisted the Tories. Finally, he is ruthless towards anyone who might stand in his way.

Mr Mandelson does not have an original mind. He has never displayed any interest in ideas; the book which he co-authored is as thinly argued as it is badly written. Some politicians enjoy mastering opponents in argument. Mr Mandelson would not be very good at that, so instead he bullies any potential opponent, especially on the electronic media.

He and Alastair Campbell spent several years browbeating television journalists, especially from the BBC. Many of those whom they were bullying were, in fact, closet Labour supporters, which may explain their spineless response. Mr Mandelson had also taken the precaution of befriending the BBC's Director-General, John Birt: the BBC's hierarchy did often seem curiously reluctant to defend its journalists.

But even in sclerotic institutions afflicted by bias and timidity, bullying does build up resentments — as has become apparent over the past few days. In the *Newsnight* studio the other evening, a recording was shown of Mr Mandelson straining for sincerity while insisting that a Labour Government would never be guilty of media manipulation. The studio erupted into laughter.

It was also a mistake of Mr Mandelson's to let it be known that he was in charge of the Government in the PM's absence. Not only will that irritate every Labour Cabinet minister — all notionally his seniors — it is also constitutionally dubious, given that he is not even a Privy Counsellor. Nor are the precedents encouraging.

In the early 1980s, there was a promising American politician called Alexander Haig. Then President Reagan was shot while Vice-President Bush was in mid-air. So Mr Haig announced that he was in charge; this only added to the general confusion. Mr Bush, who had made no announcements, arrived back in Washington and took charge. Suddenly, Mr Haig looked silly. Shortly afterwards, Mr Haig was sacked.

Mr Mandelson is not about to be sacked. But he does not have many friends in the Labour Party, Tony Blair excepted. He has been too rude, too snubbing, too supercilious. Now that he is in a little trouble, there will be more laughter than sympathy — especially as the trouble was wholly unnecessary.

Labour failed to win a by-election in a formerly safe Tory seat. The party had gambled by sending in Mr Blair, and the gamble had not come off: so what? Robin Cook's marriage collapsed; there was the suicide of a Labour MP: again, so what? There was no need for the Government to say anything.

But Mr Mandelson is used to operating on the basis of instant rebuttal. So the Royal Yacht suddenly became an issue, as did Chris Patten's conversations with Jonathan Dimbleby. The Government is lucky that the Commons is not sitting. Peter Mandelson has always tried to keep away from the dispatch box, but this time he would have been made to squirm.

Many political regimes have had their Mandelsons. But Napoleon never left Fouché in charge. Mr Mandelson now seems to be fed up with being the fourth murderer, always operating in the anonymity of the press gallery or over the phone to Broadcasting House, and he wants. He has earned the reward from Labour; unfortunately for Labour, he seems to want the reward to be the limelight.

It is a mistake. I first met Peter Mandelson when he was a researcher on Brian Walden's *Weekend World*. He was a good researcher. Any information requested of him arrived on time in beautifully docketed cardboard files, just like the ones he now keeps on Labour MPs. In those days, he seemed to be content with a minor credit. That was wise of him.

Mr Blair once speculated as to whether he could ever persuade the Labour Party to love Peter Mandelson. From the very way he asked the question, the answer was implied: most unlikely. If there is no hope in persuading the Labour Party to take Mr Mandelson to its bosom, there is even less chance of inducing the British people to do so. But hitherto at least, Mr Mandelson has been able to extort a cowed compliance from Labour MPs, by frightening them as to the consequences if they should withhold it. That would never work with the British electorate.

The author is political columnist of The Spectator.

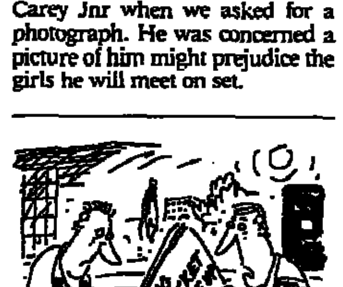
Blind faith

QUIET will descend on vicarage sitting-rooms next month to see how John Carey, 29, performs on the television programme *Blind Date*. Carey, a schoolteacher in London, is a nephew of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey.

He was reeling around Fulham Road's bars on Saturday night, expansive, grinning and bragging of his selection for the show. He said he was lured into auditioning for the show by his former girlfriend (who also auditioned and will be on the programme in the coming months) and added he hoped the show would provide him with "a few laughs, respect from my mates for getting my face on the telly and hopefully a trip to Morocco".

Yesterday morning the bounce was still there. When the subject of his Uncle George, however, was brought up, he went cold. "No, I didn't have to ask my uncle's permission to go on the show," said Carey. "He's a pretty easygoing kind of guy." Later, he even telephoned back in an unsuccessful attempt to dispute any familial connection to the Archbishop, despite having just spoken of him quite openly.

The Archbishop was in Australia yesterday, preferring to express his disapproval of the Prince of Wales marrying Camilla Parker Bowles rather than of his nephew's decision to appear on a public dating show. Modesty overcame Carey Jnr when we asked for a photograph. He was concerned a picture of him might prejudice the girls he will meet on set.



"*In future, you'll be expected to knock these bits of wood over with the ball*"

THE TIMES DIARY

● *A worldwide dearth of old-fashioned political dictators is depressing John Simpson, Foreign News Editor of the BBC and outspoken critic of the BBC's Director-General, John Birt. "I adore them [dictators]," he tells the* Radio Times *this week. "The sad thing is they're becoming rarities. You have to visit weird parts of the world now to find them — like Television Centre and Broadcasting House."*

New balls

COUNTRY ramblers have succeeded where a full-throated media had failed in forcing Michael Meacher, the Minister for the Environment, to abandon his plans to destroy a copse of trees beside his Gloucestershire home to make way for a tennis court.

Meacher withdrew his application for planning permission, which was due to be considered by Cotswold District Council later this month, when he realised that a public footpath would cut directly through the court. "It would be very difficult for Mr Meacher if ramblers kept crossing his court during play, which they would have every right to do," said a spokeswoman at the council. "He has decided to put his case into abeyance."

All change

ADVANCED cufflink-fiddling has broken out in the Foriegn Office over the appointment of Sir Robin Renwick as a Labour working peer. During the Eighties, Renwick was one of Margaret Thatcher's top foreign policy advisers.

He was despatched to be Our Man in Washington by John Major. Clipped of voice and smoother than an ambassadorial Rolls, he was seen as the ideal of a High Tory mandarin.

On his return in 1995, however, he surprised many by becoming one of Tony Blair's advisers on European policy. He claimed to like Blair's more Palmerstonian approach to foreign policy. "I admire his leadership qualities as I admired those of Margaret Thatcher," he said yesterday.

Shipmates: Cobham and his new wife, Dr Lisa Clayton

Now a director at Flemings, the merchant bank, he says: "I will not be taking a frontbench or foreign policy role. I have full-time business commitments."

All those years as a tongue-biting diplomat will serve him well under new Labour. A spokesman in the Labour Whips' Office in the Lords says: "He will be expected to restrict his criticisms to those expected of a Labour peer."

Quiet affair

LIFE as the man who lost his wife to David Mellor, the former Heritage Secretary, was never easy for Viscount Cobham. Happily, he has regrouped and last Friday he remarried, this time to Dr Lisa Clayton, 38, who in 1995 became the first woman to sail around the world non-stop and unassisted.

Cobham divorced his wife, Penelope Lady Cobham, on the grounds of adultery after she made off with Mellor. The first he heard of the couple's affair was when Mellor made a public statement about it. Dr Clayton was married briefly when she was 19.

As befits the camera-shy viscount, yesterday's Court and Social page in *The Times* reported that their wedding took place "quietly at Hagley Hall", Cobham's West Midlands seat.

P·H·S

CHINESE WHISPERS

After a news-spin too far, the public should have the full facts

With great and deliberate assiduousness last Sunday, Peter Mandelson fanned a report that Chris Patten was suspected of leaking official documents to the journalist Jonathan Dimbleby. The resulting blaze ensured the story equal news billing with Robin Cook's marital troubles and those of the Labour Party in Scotland. First, the BBC was contacted by a "senior Labour source" and asked how it proposed to handle the story. The BBC, properly, pointed out that the Foreign Office had yet to confirm that the former Governor of Hong Kong was under official investigation. An unnamed "source close to senior Government figures" duly obliged and the Minister without Portfolio then personally made a statement on radio, spiced with dramatic reference to "secret intelligence material". Journalists were further briefed that MI6 was involved.

The next day, the Foreign Office — whose responsibility any statement clearly was in the first place — was left to stuff the storm back into a teacup. This was, it said, only an internal inquiry into a leak. Mr Patten did not figure in it and there was no question of the police being involved. Mr Patten himself dismissed the allegation as "totally without foundation", which he believed had "now been conceded". He also voiced his disbelief that party political gain could possibly have motivated such a damaging slur, since that would be to cross the line from spin-doctoring to "spin-witchdoctoring".

That is precisely the impression left by this particular bit of news manipulation. It has the odour of an alliance of convenience between new Labour and the old China hands who were and are bitterly opposed to Mr Patten's handling of democratic reforms in Hong Kong. For Labour, this story helps to sideline bad news, while taking the shine off Mr Patten, who as a statesman held in high international repute would be a formidable opponent if he returned to the Commons. The former Governor's critics, under fire in the Dimbleby book on Mr Patten's governorship, share an interest in casting doubt on his integrity. Mr Dimbleby is caught in the crossfire about possible leaks: but he does not look like the real target.

The Dimbleby book claims, and Mr Patten is said to believe, that British officials privately colluded with China in the 1980s to back away from the public commitment, made by Lord Howe as Foreign Secretary, to greater democracy in Hong Kong by 1988 — time enough for a new electoral system to be well entrenched before the 1997 handover. This is the grave substance — described by Lord Howe as "unjust accusations of treachery and foul play" — which has given rise to the inquiry into leaked official secrets.

A routine downplaying by the Foreign Office is plainly insufficient. Tony Blair should accept Paddy Ashdown's call for a full inquiry by the Foreign Affairs Select Committee to end the "speculation, innuendo and rumour" that will otherwise continue to damage Mr Patten. The British public should be told whether "intelligence material" was, as Mr Mandelson asserts, unlawfully disclosed, and by whom. The people of both Britain and Hong Kong have the right to know what really took place. The Government owes Mr Patten the opportunity to clear his name; and on the substance, his critics within the Conservative Party and the Foreign Office should also be enabled to disprove if they can the allegations against them in the Dimbleby book.

Nothing but good can now come of disclosure. The Government should undertake not only to release to the committee any evidence of official leaks, but to publish as a Blue Book the full record of Britain's negotiations with China from 1985 to 1988, the period to which these alleged leaks refer.

The previous Government set a precedent in 1990, when it responded to Chinese allegations that Britain had breached a secret agreement on the pace of constitutional reforms by publishing the relevant exchange of letters between Britain and China "to set the record straight". This Government, which is committed to a Freedom of Information Act and has championed that fact, can do no less.

SIMON'S SALE

Poor political management has extended this saga

The announcement by Lord Simon of Highbury, Minister for European Trade and Competitiveness, that he intends to sell his stake in British Petroleum "as soon as arrangements can be finalised" is to be welcomed. His further statement that he would donate to charity any additional returns that those shares might have made since he became a Minister is an act of some generosity. Lord Simon's personal probity never been brought into question. His efforts to explain himself now are entirely apt if unfortunately somewhat belated.

This matter has acquired momentum more from decisions made by Downing Street than the efforts of John Redwood, Shadow Trade and Industry secretary. Tony Blair clearly wanted to recruit a high-profile businessman to his administration. But that enthusiasm appears to have led to a certain carelessness in the detailed organisation of Lord Simon's arrangements. Over the past three months the internal contradictions in the Government's stand on this subject have been exposed in parliamentary answers.

The argument has persisted because the Government refused to acknowledge that the Minister's continued control of a stake of this size in a company of this character did risk at least the impression of a conflict of interest. Nor would it concede that Lord Simon's quite proper need to absent himself from departmental matters that might affect BP constituted an impediment on his effectiveness. Instead Downing Street decided on an unnecessarily aggressive line of approach on the issue. A week ago Mr Blair told William Hague to "grow up" when he raised this issue with the Prime Minister. It now seems that he or his associates have urged Lord Simon to sell up.

There were reasons related to Lord Simon's knowledge of BP that could have been cited in his defence. He outlined his dilemma — particularly in regard to insider dealing legislation — in the columns of this newspaper. This was not an implausible case although it understated the importance of appearances in ministerial matters. Had it been articulated earlier, Lord Simon's concerns would have attracted more sympathy. It only emerged after the Government reluctantly realised that its own prior preaching on proper practice in public life could not be reconciled with this situation.

Lord Simon's statement deals with almost all the issues of importance related to his finances. The small personal holdings in companies such as Grand Metropolitan that he held outside of his blind trust now appear to be in due administrative order. There remains some concern about whether his former position at BP will inhibit his official duties. In his article for *The Times* Lord Simon noted that his status as an ex-Chairman of that company — regardless of any shares he might possess — would make it improper for him to involve himself in decisions related to his old employer.

If that view were to be followed with too much vigilance then Lord Simon's capacities as a Minister might again be cause for comment. If not he should be able to return to his desk with both honour and effectiveness in appropriate condition. It should not be impossible for businessmen to make the move to Whitehall. The transfer of experience has much to commend it. Lord Simon has foregone a salary of £874,000 to be at Mr Blair and Britain's service. It is to be hoped that he receives rather better advice from the professional politicians in future.

A BETTER GAME

English cricket needs an urgent shake-up

Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, English cricket's "doctor", yesterday unveiled his new prescriptions for the diseases that afflict the game. His efforts will not please everyone: some will see them as too radical, while others, ourselves included, will regard them as not radical enough. Yet to criticise him for failing to be a true revolutionary would not only be churlish but also unhelpful.

No one should doubt that Lord MacLaurin, the chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), hopes sincerely to shake up English cricket. He can still do so, in his next round of reforms. By the same token, no one should underestimate the gravity of the problems with which he has had to grapple. English cricket is flabby. It is overweight. It is uncompetitive. It is often dull and jejune, dozy and joyless. There is simply too much of it as well: season after season, men we refer to as "seasoned pros" play a ceaseless stream of county matches. If it's Tuesday it must be Weston-super-Mare. Professional cricket has been reduced to just another day at the "office".

We regret that Lord MacLaurin did not opt for a two-tiered County Championship, with competitiveness injected into the jaded matches by the incentive of promotion and

divisions — is at least an improvement on the present position. Our cricketers need to play fewer matches against fewer teams, and the proposed reform will at least make sure of that. Our championships need to be leaner and meaner, with players hungry to perform on the occasions they get to play. This ensures that they are mentally "match fit" at all times, not merely men going through the white-flannelled motions.

It is no accident that the three most competitive Test sides — Australia, the West Indies and Pakistan — emerge from short, sharp domestic seasons. It is no accident either that the least competitive of the major Test-playing countries — England and India — have very long seasons and a plethora of teams competing against each other. Quantity kills aggression. A surfeit kills hunger.

There is no guarantee, of course, that such structural change will make for a winning England side. Success at cricket, as in any other sport, boils down eventually to a question of talent. That is a commodity that even Lord MacLaurin cannot conjure up on our playing fields. What he has begun to do, however, and what he must continue to do, is to search for a structure that does not throttle the talent that we do have. His

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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No 10's control of errant ministers

From Mr Joe Haines

Sir, There is nothing new and nothing wrong in Downing Street's control of newspaper and broadcasting interviews. I operated the same system more than 25 years ago with Harold Wilson, and had my Conservative successors done the same they would have avoided many of the banana skins which contributed to their final skid from office.

Wilson's dictum was that editors had a newspaper (or programme) to bring out every night and that he had a government to be elected every five years. Their priorities were not the same. As press secretary to the leader of a relentlessly fissiparous party it made sense to ensure that all members of his Government were singing from the same hymn sheet. That entailed a central (Downing Street) oversight and control where necessary, which was delegated by Wilson to me.

Of course, ministers didn't like it, nor did the press. At Wilson's resignation dinner in Downing Street, Tony Benn gently attacked me for operating the policy. Eric Heffer once threatened to come to Downing Street to demand from the Prime Minister the right to appear in a debate with a Tory MP on the middle classes (!) and only desisted when I told him the policeman at the door would be instructed to refuse him entrance. Another Minister was in tears when he was denied the right to attack a Cabinet colleague (Benn) in a public speech.

Nor were ministers allowed to comment publicly on matters which were the concern of other departments. When Reg Prentice, as Education Secretary, wanted to discuss economic matters on TV with Peter Jay, I said "No" (Prentice disagreed with the Government's income policy and, in any case, Jay would have wiped the floor with him) and was criticised at the front of the programme for doing so.

Those decisions were not about open or shut government but about coherent government. I can't imagine an editor allowing his leader-writer publicly to go against his paper's policy and nor should a Prime Minister give that latitude to a colleague.

Yours faithfully,
JOE HAINES
(Chief Press Secretary to the Prime Minister, 1969-70 and 1974-76; to the Leader of the Opposition, 1970-74),
1 South Frith,
London Road, Southborough,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
August 3.

Tory wets

From Sir Julian Critchley

Sir, God save the Tory party from its press and publicity officers. The photograph (later editions, August 5) of William Hague, wearing a baseball cap with his name on it (and the slogan "a fresh future" on the back), and another photograph of him coming down a water chute at Flambards in Cornwall (earlier editions), were undignified in the extreme.

Our new leader, elected by 92 votes, is to face the Tory party at this October's party conference in Blackpool. In Cornwall he looked all of 15 years old. Will he be permitted to act his age on Lancashire's big dipper?

Yours etc,
JULIAN CRITCHLEY,
19 Broad Street,
Ludlow, Shropshire.
August 5.

Hand on the tiller

From Mr Barry Ramsay

Sir, I was amused by your lead headline today, "Mandelson accused of fixing news", and look forward to further examples in similar vein: "Doctors accused of treating illness" perhaps?

Yours faithfully,
BARRY RAMSAY,
119 Studland Road, W7.
August 5.

Labour and unions

From Mr Jack Shapiro

Sir, It is an ironic fact that the Labour Party, stemming as it does from the original Labour Representation Committee which obtained the election of Keir Hardie as the first Labour MP, is now nearly a century old.

At that time the trade unions were dissatisfied with the Liberal Party representing the interests of trade unionists. Now the trade unionists are being edged out of the new Labour Party and the Liberals and many businessmen are being welcomed in.

Your editorial of July 31, "Better led than red", is right to suggest that "most voters prefer to have a centre-left party which is as comfortable with business as with organised labour". This centre left is about those people who have achieved a middle-class status under Thatcher and Major. They rarely belong to trade unions and certainly new Labour does not represent the underclass that is getting poorer whilst those centre-left voters are getting richer.

Then who is to represent the interests of the underclass and the edged-out trade unionists?

Yours sincerely,
JACK SHAPIRO,

'Duplicity' an issue in government

From Mr I. D. Cleland

Sir, The Foreign Secretary, while he was Shadow, sought to criticise — rightly, in my judgment — the previous Administration for its double standards and what he in effect called its duplicity over a range of issues.

In office himself he has — rightly in my judgment — sought to occupy the high moral ground on arms sales, human rights and a whole range of issues. Is he not now fatally flawed in his capacity to take this stance simply because he seems in his private life to have practised duplicity to those nearest and dearest to him (report, August 4)?

Is not the real tragedy that we may have to lose the services of an able and gifted man because you *cannot* separate private and public matters in the way the Prime Minister has tried to do in his expressions of support for his beleagured colleague? Is not the hypocrisy of the use by the Labour Party in Uxbridge of the Parkinson affair now exposed as utter folly as well as hypocrisy?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID CLELAND,
Celedston, Rhosesmor Road,
Halkyn, Holywell, Flintshire.

From Sir Robert Rhodes James

Sir, I cannot help vaguely wondering how our earnest and moralistic press would have treated a Conservative Foreign Secretary who had ditched his wife of 28 years for his secretary, a senior Conservative minister who hung on to shares worth over £2 million, some in a Channel Islands tax-avoidance trust, and a Conservative MP perhaps driven to suicide by the machinations of his colleagues.

Also, how would the media have regarded a Conservative prime minister who, amid this mayhem, went on holiday with his family to a Tuscany mansion owned by a multi-millionaire Conservative MP whom he had just appointed to a senior position in his Government?

Just wondering.

Yours etc,
ROBERT RHODES JAMES
(Conservative MP for
Cambridge, 1976-92),
The Stone House, Great Gransden,
Sandy, Bedfordshire.
August 5.

From Mr Simon Brocklebank-Fowler

Sir, As Foreign Secretary Mr Robin Cook holds one of two Cabinet posts (the other being that of Defence Secretary) where personal conduct is a legitimate matter for public interest.

When I was inducted as a graduate into the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the early 1980s it was made clear to all new entrants that adultery represented a potential security risk as well as being damaging to one's professional credibility, particularly in smaller overseas posts.

My understanding is that, broadly, these views still prevail within the Office.

Would it not have been possible to find for Mr Cook a departmental responsibility where his personal life, however mitigating his circumstances, was less clearly at odds with the operationally necessary mores of the civil servants who answer to him?

Yours faithfully,
SIMON BROCKLEBANK-
FOWLER,
Travellers Club,
106 Pall Mall, SW1.
August 5.

From Mr Derek A. Rose

Sir, I hope that Robin and Margaret Cook will be able to rebuild their lives and will be allowed the privacy to do so. However, are we not witnessing an example of Tony Blair making policy on the hoof, so to speak, with a decision to match the circumstances, not the principle?

Robin Cook came forward to make a bold and brave personal statement only when the game was up. Not so long ago similarly bold and brave men have resigned their office, with general approval; but Tony Blair says that this "truly outstanding" Foreign Secretary should not have to contemplate such action.

It seems that good people no longer need to set high examples compatible with their positions and that anything goes as long as no money changes hands.

Sincerely,
DEREK A. ROSE,
18 Lodge Court,
Aldwick Grange,
Bognor Regis, West Sussex.
August 5.

PoW campaign for financial justice

From Brigadier E. G. B. Davies-Scourfield (*retd*)

Sir, I would not wish people to think that all ex-PoWs feel as your correspondents in today's *Times*.

Once captured we were of little further use to our country, and many of us felt grateful (and indeed rather surprised) that we were paid anything at all. After all, our keep (such as it was) was free, and the British Red Cross, thanks to its generous supporters and voluntary workers (most of whom were unpaid), sent us huge numbers of parcels (for which we were not charged).

Many ex-PoWs like myself feel embarrassed by the attempts made by some of our fellow prisoners and some PoW organisations to squeeze more money out of our Government, instead of showing some gratitude for all that was done on our behalf.

Ex-PoWs of the Japanese are, of course, in a different situation.

Yours sincerely,
GRIS DAVIES-SCOURFIELD
(PoW, *Germany, 1940-45),*
Old Rectory Cottage,
Medstead, Alton, Hampshire.
August 1.

From Group Captain Alec Ingle

Sir, As one involved for the last 17 years in the campaign for financial justice to prisoners-of-war held in German prison camps, it was my belief that the Germans should have been repaid at the end of hostilities for any payments they made to us whilst we were in their hands, in accordance with the 1929 Geneva Convention. This did not happen.

We are told that the principle was that we should have no financial advantage over our counterparts who remained free — or, as the War Office put it so considerately, "continued to fight". How could we gain such an advantage?

We are also told that, equally, we should not be at a disadvantage. All the evidence shows that we are.

The Ministry of Defence now seeks to deny us access to the ex-Serviceman's "court of last resort" — an appeal to Her Majesty the Queen, as head of the Armed Forces. I wonder whether the responsible Ministers of State will have any twinges of conscience when attending the Armistice services in November?

I am, Sir, your faithfully,
ALEC INGLE
(PoW, Germany, 1943-45),
4 The Grange, Grange Court,
Bognor Regis, West Sussex.

From Mrs Delsie Myer

Sir, It isn't often I feel ashamed to be British, but after reading the letter from five brave PoWs I am mortified.

The meanness underlying the denial of their rights beggars belief in our so-called "fair play". It savours of "when we needed you it was all right for you to sacrifice your lives; but now it is all over and a long time has elapsed, we can renege on our financial commitments".

Yours faithfully,
DELSIE MYER,
Postford House, Chilworth, Surrey.
August 3.

Norfolk war archive

From Mr C. Berry Savory

Sir, In reply to the excellent letter from the Director-General of the Imperial War Museum (July 30) in respect of the archives held there, I should emphasise that the real purpose of having the RFC Narborough photographs here was that Narborough was the largest Royal Flying Corps base in Norfolk in the First World War. We thought it right to keep this record in the county.

The "open viewing" referred to by Commander Roger Paine, RN, in his accompanying letter, refers to what has been our policy since our foundation in 1988. The public can touch and feel all our heavy exhibits and we have in the holiday season "live" tank demonstrations twice daily, when the public can ride in certain vehicles.

Yours sincerely,
C. BERRY SAVORY
(Managing partner),
The Muckleburgh Collection,
Weybourne Military Camp,
Weybourne, Holt, Norfolk.
August 1.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be

Oxford tutorials

From Dr W. J. Blair

Sir, Mr Stephen Shute's statement (letter, July 29) that "one-to-one tutorials are now a rarity" in Oxford is wrong, and his speculation about "a tutorial system that no longer exists" is bizarre.

Teaching in History is almost entirely by single or paired tutorials (with limited use of supplementary classes), and there are no plans to change this. The choice between singles and pairs depends partly on the subject and the stage in the course, but pairing often reflects the tutor's informed view that two students will work well together. College lectureships are enormously competitive, and are held by outstanding young scholars (on the road to established posts) whose teaching is nearly always excellent.

What quality of teaching the State can afford to pay for is a matter for debate. That intensive, personal contact with leading experts gives more scope for students to develop critical and analytical skills than large lecture-classes is surely beyond question.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BLAIR
(Fellow and Praelector

Fate of classical music publishers

From Mr Andrew King

Sir, Many of us who work in the music publishing industry will be both amazed and irritated by the letter (July 30) from various parties with an interest in the future of Boosey and Hawkes.

Are they not aware that the "pop" publishers of whom they write so disparagingly have perfectly properly and for many years supported the publishers of "serious music" via a system of cross-subsidy operated by the Performing Rights Society.

Mr Donald Mitchell and his co-signatories are so used to being treated as a special case that they have lost touch with the outside world, where, for instance, songs like the Beatles' catalogue (for many an equally important part of musical history) have been bought and sold more often than a washing machine in Arthur Daley's warehouse.

If they consider themselves such proud curators of a cultural treasure trove, why did they not take steps many years ago to protect their copyrights contractually from treatment of which they did not approve?

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW KING
(Head of Publishing),
Mute Song,
429 Harrow Road, W10.
August 1.

From Lord Menuhin, OM

Sir, The problem of Boosey and Hawkes, which represents a very great British musical tradition, is that we have confused the free market of business with the autonomy of cultures. Without an awareness, a conscience, that we must each and all carry for a common cultural heritage, it is today perfectly conceivable for Boosey and Hawkes to be sold — hypothetically speaking — to a Japanese garbage firm for good business reasons.

I am convinced that without a respect for, and official representations of, cultural units, we will see this happening more often, to our great misfortune and to the misfortune of our cultural life the world over — particularly in those fields which straddle the cultural and the commercial.

Yours sincerely,
YEHUDI MENUHIN,
Sym Music Company Limited,
PO Box 6160, London SW1W 9XJ.
August 4.

Low blow

From Colonel Patrick Montgomery

Sir, Mr Chapman Pincher (letter, July 30) evidently bases his assessment of the quality of game birds on the height at which they fly.

In the Fifties I was in Portugal and was invited to shoot partridges on an estate in the Alentejo region. The birds were plentiful in the cork forests where the boughs came down to head height.

No one could say of these partridges that they lacked the quality either of courage or of tactical skill. Observing the advancing line of guns and waiting till the last moment, each covey would rise and fly at head height straight down the line of guns. Several of the guns lacked experience, so anyone failing to throw himself to the ground was at risk.

Our host had reason to revise the guest list for his next shoot, as a short halt was called for one of us to relieve him, with his penknife, of half a dozen no 6 shot.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK MONTGOMERY,
The Oast House,
Framfield Road, Buxted, East Sussex.
August 1.

The Avebury Four

From Mrs Susan Hopton

Sir, Perhaps the four peacocks at Avebury (report, August 1) are being aggressive and causing so much damage because the National Trust is not feeding them properly.

A friend of mine, who has a beautiful garden, has some peacocks which arrived uninvited a few years ago. They found it so delightful they stayed and have bred. The birds never touch anything in the garden because they are so well fed. However, it is very expensive; my friend tells me it costs approximately £50 every ten days for six peacocks.

They put on a wonderful show in front of the house every evening, which adds great charm to the property.

Yours sincerely,
SUSAN HOPTON,
Chesham House,
30-31 Chesham Place, SW1.
August 4.

Love's labours lost?

From Mr Alastair Aked

Sir, The Government, in launching its "sexual awareness week" (report, August 4), is aiming it at everyone from 16 to 70, which excludes me. Fortunately I have a younger wife, so I will have to listen to her, mutely and happily, all week.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR AKED,
16 Mayfair, 74 West Cliff Road,

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
August 5: The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded Mrs Christian Adams as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

CLARENCE HOUSE
August 5: Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox has succeeded the Lady Angela Oswald as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

Birthdays today

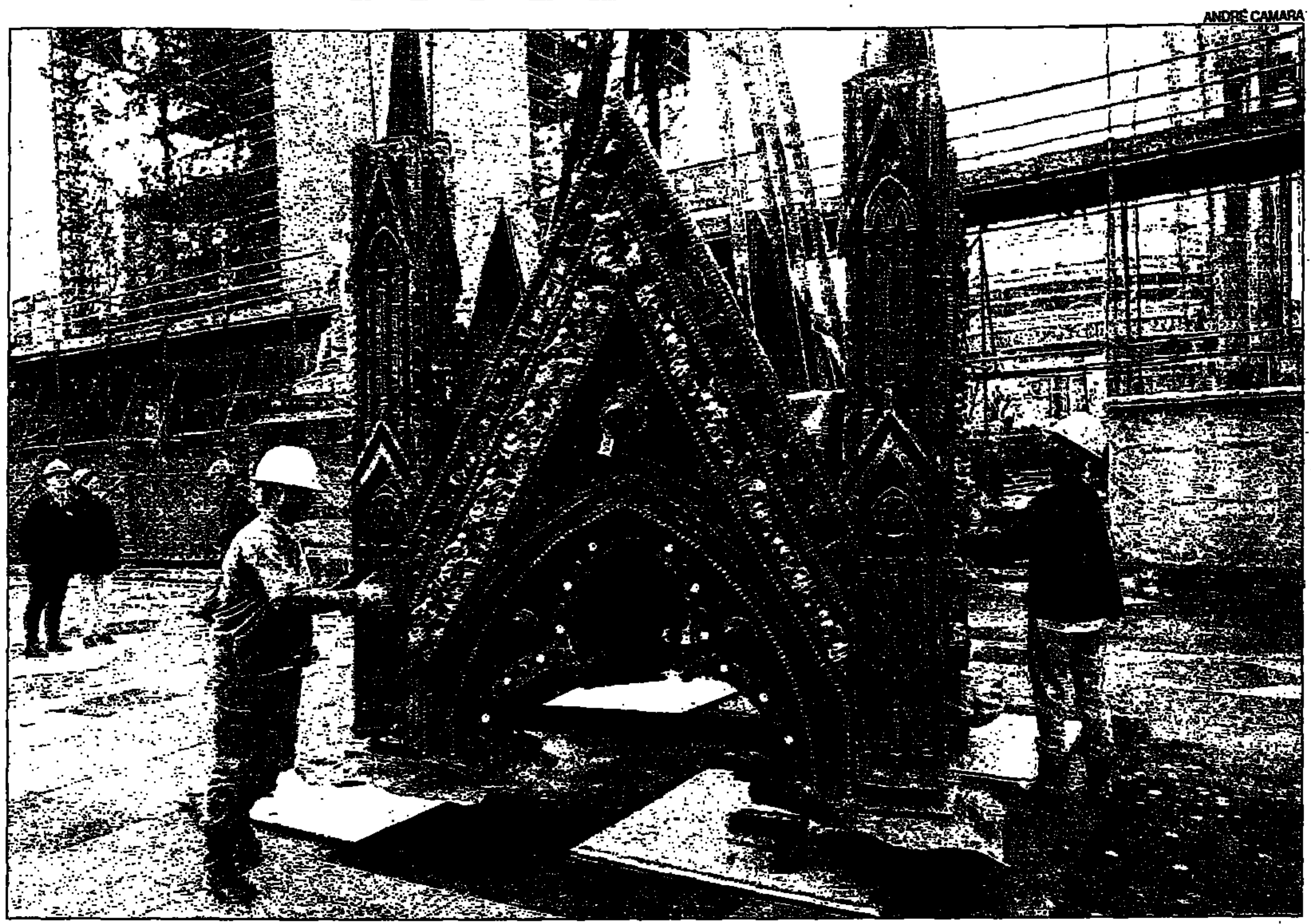
The Countess of Albemarle, 88; Sir Chris Bonington, mountaineer, 63; Mr Billy Boston, rugby league player, 63; Mr Richard Buckle, writer and exhibition designer, 81; Mr Alastair Creamer, Dean, London College of Music and Media, 38; Mr Ron Davies, Secretary of State for Wales, 51; Mr Michael Deeley, film producer, 65; Mr J.H. Emlyn Jones, former president, Alpine Club, 82; *Mr Bill* Emmott, Editor, *The Economist*, 41; Colonel J. Ellis Evans, *former* Lord-Lieutenant of Clwyd, 87; Mr John Evans, Chief Constable, Devon and Cornwall, 54; Mr Frank Finlay, actor, 71; Air Marshal Sir Geoffrey Ford, 74; Sir Howard Hodgkin, painter, 65; Sir Freddie Laker, creator, Skytrain Air Passenger Service, 75; Mr James Lees-Milne, architectural historian, 89; Sir Donald McCallum, engineer, 75; the Rev Dr Robert McCrea, former MP, 49; Sir David Madel, MP, 59; Mr Dom Mintoff, former Prime Minister of *Malta*, 81; *Mr David* O'Brien, racehorse trainer, 41; Sir Duncan Oppenheim, for*mer president, British Ameri*can Tobacco Company, 93; Mr Jack Parnell, drummer, 74; *Judge Valerie Pearlman, 61*; Mr Derek Prag, former MEP, 74; Mr John Reid, jockey, 42; Lord Swaythling, 69; the Marquess of Tweeddale, 50; the Right Rev Martin Wharton, Bishop-Designate of Newcastle, 68; Miss Barbara Windsor, actress, 60; Mr Charles Wood, writer, 65.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Mark Edgley was christened Molly Bray Sylvia, by the Rev Ian Beskwith at Eaton Hastings Church, on Sunday, August 3, 1997.

Service dinner

222 (Natal) Squadron RAF
Mr Joe Crawshaw, Chairman of 222 (Natal) Squadron RAF Association, received members and their ladies at a dinner held last night at the Quality Norfolk Hotel, Birmingham. Among the guests were Air Marshal Sir John Sutton and Air Vice Marshal David Whittaker.


ANDRÉ CAMARA

An 11-tonne section of the Albert Memorial spire being lifted back on to the memorial yesterday after restoration. This part of the spire is three metres high and lavishly decorated with moulded leadwork panels and polished glass jewels. A £14 million restoration programme for the memorial, which stands opposite the Albert Hall, began in 1994 and should be completed in 1999

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury 1559-75, Norwich, 1504; Nicolas Malebranche, philosopher, Paris, 1638; François de *Salignac de la Mothe-Fénelon*, theologian, Périgord, France, 1651; William Hyde Wollas*ton, physician, East Dereham*, Norfolk, 1766; Daniel O'Connell, "the Liberator", *Cahirciveen, Co Kerry*, 1775; Alfred Tennyson, 1st Baron Tennyson, Poet Laureate 1850-92, Somersby, Lincolnshire, 1809; Rolf Boldrewood (Thomas Alexander Browne), writer, London, 1826; Paul Claudel, poet, dramatist and diplomat, Villeneuve-sur-Fère, 1868; Sir Alexander Fleming, bacteriologist and discoverer of penicillin, Nobel laureate 1945, Darvel, Strathclyde, 1881; William Slim, 1st Viscount Slim, field marshal, Governor-General of Australia 1953-60, Bristol, 1891.

DEATHS: St Dominic, founder of the Dominican Order of Friars, Bologna, 1221; Anne Hathaway, wife of William Shakespeare, Stratford-upon-Avon, 1623; Ben Jonson, dramatist, London, 1637; Diego Velázquez, painter, Madrid, 1660; David Allan, painter, Edinburgh, 1796; Sir *Cedric Hardwicke, actor*, New York, 1964; Fulgencio Batista y Zaldivar, dictator of Cuba 1933-49 and 1952-59, Spain, *1973*; Giovanni Batista Montini, Pope Paul VI 1963-78, Castelgandolfo, 1978; Marino *Marini, sculptor*, Viareggio, Italy, 1980.

The dissolution of the Holy *Roman Empire*, 1806.

The Savoy Hotel, London, opened, 1889.

The electric chair was used for the first time (to execute the murderer William Kemmler in New York), 1890.

An atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima by the Americans, 1945.

University news

Oxford

George Webb *Medley Prizes 1997*.

The prize for the best overall performance for the MSc in *Economics* for *Development has* been awarded to Ben D. Peletier, Magdalen College.

MPhil in Economics 1997

George Webb Medley Prizes

The Prize for the best thesis has been divided between Miss Amy Finkelstein, Magdalen College, and Pietro Stella, Nuffield College.

The Prize for the best performance in written papers has been awarded to Miss Amy Finkelstein, Magdalen College.

Proxime Accessit: Andrew Sweeting, Nuffield College.

Recorders

The following have been appointed Recorders:

Wales and Chester Circuit
Mr Nicholas Orton Cooke and Mr Edward Thomas Henry Teague.

Northern Circuit
Mr Laurence Frederick Mark Brown, Mr Alan David Conrad, Mr James Ross Duggan, Miss Rowena Margaret Goode, Mr Timothy Victor Holroyde, QC, *Mr Andrew Charles* Lowcock, Mr Adrian Pirrie Lyon, Mr George Martin *Marriott, Mr Andrew* Gerald Moran, QC, Mr Graham Eric Morrow, QC, Mr James *Kenneth* Pickup, *Mr Terence* Rigby, Miss Maureen Bernadette Roddy, Mr Peter Winston Smith QC, and Miss Barbara Joan Watson.

Midland and Oxford Circuit
Mr Robert Michael Challinor, Mr David Eric Griffith-Jones, Mr Simeon Andrew Maskrey, QC, Mr Patrick Gerard McCahill, QC, Mr Christopher John Millington, Mr Howard Andrew Clive Morrison, Mr David John Richardson, Miss Sybil Milwyn Thomas and Mr Collingwood Forster James Thompson.

Lincoln's Inn

Mrs Justice Sujata V. Manohar, of the Supreme Court of India, has *become an Honorary Bencher* of Lincoln's Inn.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Susan Armitage, formerly Assistant Priest, Garsfontein, Corpus Christi (Pretoria, South Africa): to be Assistant Curate, Fawley (Winchester).

Canon Roy Arnold to be Canon Emeritus of Sheffield Cathedral.

The Rev Richard Avery, Rector, *St John the Baptist, Duncan* (British Columbia, Canada): to be Team Vicar, *Cheltenham St Mark with* special responsibility for St Silas (Gloucester).

The Rev Patricia Wick, Team Vicar, Drypool Team Ministry (York) to resign November *16 and* join the Church Mission Society to serve as a mission partner in Africa.

The Rev David Wilbourne, Domestic Chaplain to the Archbishop of York and Diocesan Director of Ordinands (York): to be Vicar, Helmsley (same diocese).

The Rev Carol Wodehouse, NSM Hambleden Valley Group Ministry (Oxford): to be also Associate Rural Dean of Wycombe (same diocese).

Retirements & resignations

The Rev Warren Adamson, Vicar, Potters Green (Coventry) to retire for health reasons *September 30*.

The Rev Nicholas Benson, Vicar, St Bede, Brandwood (Birmingham) to resign September 30.

Canon Susan Cole-King, Priest-in-Charge, Drayton St *Peter (Oxford) to retire July 6*.

The Rev Leslie Craske, Rector, Guernsey St Saviour and Priest-in-charge Guernsey *St* Marguerite de la Foret (Winchester) retired July 31.

The Rev Peter Grigsby, Team Vicar, Brayton Team Ministry (York) with special responsibility for St Francis of Assisi, Thorpe Willoughby, to retire September 30.

Canon Henry Lunney, Rector, Westerfield and Honorary Canon of St Edmundsbury (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) to retire November 5.

The Rev James Rooke, Part-time Priest-in-Charge, Borrowdale (Carlisle) resigned for health reasons July 27.

The Rev James Scott, Team Rector, Kirk Ella Team *Ministry* (York) to retire October 31.

Canon Peter Whiteside, Team *Vicar, Brentford (London)* retired June 30.

The Rev Marjorie Warnes, *Curate, St Mary's Leamington* Priors (Coventry) to retire October 31.

Other appointments

Captain Alan Lowe has been appointed Lay Trainer in *Evangelism, West Bromwich* Deanery (Lichfield).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. Gambetta
and Miss C.C. Pepper
The engagement is announced between Rick, son of Mr E. Gambetta, of Paris, and the Hon Lady Gore-Booth and stepson of the Hon Sir David Gore-Booth, of London, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr *and Mrs John* Pepper, of Kimpton, Hertfordshire.

Mr W.A. Beveridge
and Miss H.J. Golden
The engagement is announced between Alister, only son of Mr and Mrs William Beveridge, of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Hellen, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Edwin Golden, of Wombourne, Staffordshire.

Dr T.A. Collyns
and Miss K. Friese-Greene Hiller
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs A.J. Collyns, of Warminster, and Kirsten, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Hiller, of Sheffield.

Mr I.G. Goode
and Miss N.C. Carstairs
The engagement is announced between Ian, elder son of Mr and Mrs D.G. Goode, of Putney, London, and Nichola, younger daughter of Lieutenant Colonel R.D.N. *Carstairs, retd, and Mrs* Carstairs, of Husbands Bosworth, Leicestershire.

Mr J.D. Hardwick
and Miss A-M. Walsh
The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Hardwick, *of Kirk* Hammerton, North Yorkshire, and Anne-Marie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Brendan Walsh, of Foxrock, Dublin.

Mr G.A. Higgins
and Miss B. Plachetka
The engagement is announced between George Anthony, eldest son of the late Bernard Arthur Higgins and of Mrs Higgins, of The Halesend, Storridge, Worcestershire, and Bernadette Plachetka, of Munich.

Mr N.P. Mothersole
and Miss A.M. Tooth
The engagement is announced *between Nicholas Paul, only son of* Mr and Mrs Anthony Mothersole, of Leicester and Norway, and Alexa Mary, youngest daughter of Mr Simon Tooth, of London and the late Mrs Melissa Tooth.

Mr M. Ward
and *Miss L. Croll*
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr and Mrs Alan Ward, of Loughborough, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Croll, of Horsham.

Mr S.D. Wilton
and Miss C.J. Ewins
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs David Wilton, of Cheltenham, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bruce Ewins, of Ludlow, Shropshire.

Mr J.C.G. Tovey
and Miss H.E.D. Burke
The engagement *is announced* between James, son of the late Mr Charles Tovey and of Mrs Tovey, *of Bristol, and* Helen, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel the Rev and Mrs William Burke, of Castor, Cambridgeshire.

Mr J.A.G. Walduck
and Miss A.J. Haisman-Baker
The engagement is announced between Jason, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Tom Walduck, of Hatfield, Hertfordshire, and Amanda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs. Paul Haisman-Baker, of Hadleigh, Essex.

Mr D.L.C. Wallis
and Miss A.C. MacGregor
The engagement is announced between Dominic, *younger son of* Mr and Mrs Michael Wallis, of Cambridge, and Alison, younger daughter of Mr Stuart MacGregor, of Torphins, Aberdeenshire, and of Mrs Andrew Barr-Sim, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr S.M.C. Wallis
and Miss N. Williams
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Wallis, of Cambridge, and Natalie, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Gwyn Williams, of Dorking, Surrey.

Mr A.J.F. Wildman
and *Miss C.J. Watson*
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr Robert Wildman, of London, and Mrs Diana Wildman, of London, and Caroline, daughter of the Rev Timothy and Mrs Watson, of *Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.*

Mr J.L.C. Winterton
and Miss S.R. Stutzman
The *engagement is announced* between James, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Winterton, of Loddiswell, Devon, and Susan, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Wayne Stutzman, of Julesburg, Colorado, USA.

Marriages

Mr M.M. Hayman
and Miss G. Friese-Greene Hiller
The marriage took place on August 5, at Canford Cliffs, Poole, of Mr Michael Hayman, only son of *Mr* Peter Hayman, of Sheffield, and Mrs Richard-Searle, of California, *to Miss Gabrielle* Friese-Greene Hiller, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Hiller, of Sheffield.

Mr T. Rintoul
and Miss S.C. Percy
The marriage took place on Saturday, August 2, 1997, at St Salvator's Chapel, St Andrews, of Mr Toby Rintoul, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Rintoul, to Miss Sally Percy, daughter of Professor and Mrs Ian Percy, both of Edinburgh. The Very Rev John McIndoe officiated.

Latest wills

Lord Croft, of Croft Castle, Leominster, Herefordshire, left estate valued at £2,746,230 net.

He left £1,000 each to Friends of the Herefordshire Museums and Arts, Croft Church Trust, and Lord Croft Charity Trust; £500 each to St Michael's Church, Croft, and St Leonard's Church, Yarpole, Trinity Hall, Cambridge, Friends of Hereford Cathedral, Leominster Museum, and the Order of St John; along with paintings and furniture at Croft Castle to the National Trust.

Kenneth **Bailey**, of Brackley, Northamptonshire, left estate valued at *£1,397,600* net.

Robert Dennis Fraser **Bland**, of Nottingham, left estate valued at *£1,134,239* net.

He left £500 to both Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club Cricket Lovers Association and the Ladies Cricket Association.

Eric Arthur Swatton **Brooks**, solicitor, of Maidenhead, *Berkshire, left estate valued at* £999,859 net.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Scripture records that you are to come at the appointed *time to* allay the *divine* wrath before it erupts in fury, to reconcile father and son, and to restore the tribes of Jacob. Ecclesiasticus 48 : 10

BIRTHS

BALL - On June 1st 1997, to Ann Stahl and Dean Ball, of *Maidenhead, Berkshire, a* beautiful daughter, Yasmin Louisa.

CAMPBELL - On July 28th at *the Portland Hospital to* Julia (née Podrasky) and Noel, a son, Alexander William.

***CODRINGTON** - On August 1st* to Emma (née Formby) and James, a son, Humphrey Alexander.

***HARMAN** - On July 31st at The* Portland Hospital to Julia (née Dunn) and Simon, a son, Henry Edward Longton.

***HINES** - On 30th July 1997*, at St Mary's, Poole, to Claire (née Brewer) and Julian, a daughter, Emily Grace.

***HUTCHISON** - On 31st July* 1997, to Selina (née Cocking) and William, a daughter, Beatrice Elizabeth Lucy, a beloved sister for Tabitha.

KIME - On August 3rd at The Portland *Hospital* to Dawn and Andrew, a son, James Hadley.

LITTLE - On Tuesday July 29th to Mary Ann (née Donnelly) and Iain, a daughter, Katriona Helen Anne, a sister for Thomas.

***MAUDE** - On 4th August to Dolly (née Pegna) and Chris*, a son, William George.

MORTISHED - On August 3rd 1997, to Moira (née *Shannon)* and *Carl*, a son, Max Peter.

NARITA - On August 2nd at the *Hospital* of St John and St Elizabeth to Shigeko and Satoru, a beautiful first daughter, her weight at birth was 3230 grammes.

NEDEN - On July 23rd, to Fiona (née MacKenzie) and Andrew, a son, David Frederick "Freddie". Psalm 139 : 13-14

PAULLEY - On 24th July 1997, to Cathleen (née Westaway) and Christopher, a daughter, Grace Loveday, a sister for James, Clare and Philip.

ROSE - On 27th July to Sarah *(née Cusens)* and Colin, a beautiful daughter Alexandra Catherine, a sister for Eleanor Grace.

***YEATS-BROWN** - On August* 4th 1997 to Joanna (née Edmonds) and Edward, a son, Ralph Edward Noah, a brother for Jennifer and

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ABBEY - Mrs Karen Abbey and family wish to thank all *family friends* and colleagues for their floral tributes, donations and kind wishes following the death of Michael Abbey.

DEATHS

BARBER - Roy of Bickerton, Malpas, on 5th August. *Dearly loved husband of* Joan and father of Susan and Helen. Funeral Service, Bickerton Church 2pm, Monday 11th August. *Enquiries to James Cawdron* Tel: 01332 824000.

BIGLEY - On August 1st 1997, Derek William C.B.E., J.M.N. of Ticklerton near Church Stretton, Shropshire aged 84 years. Passed Controller of Immigration, *Malaysia. Funeral Service* at St Edith's Church, Eaton-under-Heywood on Saturday August 9th at 11am. No flowers by request. *Donations if desired for St* Edith's Church. Enquiries to A.S. Morris & Son, Funeral Directors, Church Stretton. Tel: 01694 722876.

CHOLMELEY - Helen Joyce, M.B.E., R.R.C., S.R.N., S.C.N. on August 2nd peacefully at *The Royal British Legion* Dunkirk Memorial House, Bishops Lydeard near Taunton, Somerset aged 90 years. Dearly loved by all her family and friends. Funeral Service at Bishops Lydeard Parish Church on Tuesday 12th August at 11.30am. *Family flowers only please*, donations if desired maybe given to the British Red Cross, c/o F.H. Willicombe & Son, 8 High Street, Williton *TA4 4NW*.

CHURCHER - Major General John Bryan Churcher CB DSO *and Bar peacefully at home* on August 2nd aged 91 beloved husband of Pauline and devoted widow of Rozzie. *Loving father to Caroline*, Angela and Bryan and grandfather to Pippa, James, Ali, Oliver, Nicola, Katie and Alexander. Also much loved and respected by Pauline's daughters and family. Military *funeral* at Colchester Garrison Church on Tuesday August 12th at 1400 hours *followed* by a private cremation. *Donations if desired* to the Army Benevolent Fund. All enquiries to Hunnaball. *Tel*: 01206 760049.

GRIFFITHS - Reginald Bark *BVSc, FRCVS on 25th July in* Rome aged 76. Dearly loved husband of Celia former Major R.A.V.C. in Burma, Director Animal Production and Health Division F.A.O.

GREENUP - On July 31st 1997 in Sidmouth Hospital, the Revd. Basil William Greenup, aged 89 years, (late Conduct of Eton College and Master of the Choir School). Dearly loved husband of Joan and *father of* Jennifer, Robin (deceased) and Juliet. Funeral Service at Sidmouth Parish Church on Tuesday August 12th at 3 p.m. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to Distressed Gentlefolk's Aid Assn. or B.S.P.C.A. c/o Potbury's Funeral Service, High Street, Sidmouth.

HUSSEY - On the 5th August, 1997 with great courage and dignity, Virginia Lucie, wife of the late Captain Thomas Hussey, RN, CBE, and formerly of the 6th Marquess of Northampton, DSO. Beloved mother of Judy, Eliza, Spenny, Willie and *Andrew. Funeral at St. Mary's* Church, Wimbledon on Thursday, 14th August at 2.00 o'clock. Family flowers only please.

KENT - Jessie Elizabeth died peacefully at Paignton 20th July after a long illness. Widow of Percival Arthur, dearest mother of Michael, Maureen and Nichola. Devoted grandmother to Emily and Nicholas.

LAVIN - Dr. Noel died suddenly at Guildford on 1st August 1997. For funeral details, please telephone Pimms Funeral Services tel: 01483 567394.

LUTYENS - John of Drayton St Leonard, died peacefully on *August* 5th after a typically courageous battle against cancer. Beloved husband of Ruth, loving father of Caroline, the late Richard, Charles, and adored grandfather of Susannah, Rupert, Tanya, Alice, Millie, Emily and Miki. Funeral Service at the Church of St Leonard and St Catherine, Drayton St Leonard, Oxfordshire on Friday 8th August at 12 noon. Family flowers only. *Donations if* desired to Sobell House Hospice Charity, c/o Thomas & Jarvis, Copse View, Castle Street, Steventon, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. Tel: 01235 831395.

MURRELL - Durham Robert, beloved husband and *father*. Enquiries to Wright's

PATTERSON - On August 2nd 1997, peacefully after a long illness, Angela, *aged 65* years. Beloved wife of the late Gerald Patterson and daughter of the late Mr and Mrs John Fleming of *Hazelbury, Ascot. R.I.P.* The coffin will be received into St. Joseph's Church, Bournemouth Road, Branksome, Poole on Wednesday August 13th at 1.45p.m. for Requiem Mass at 2p.m. Committal following at Bournemouth Crematorium. Family flowers only but if desired donations in her memory for Macmillan Cancer Trust may be sent to Deric-Scott, Portman Lodge Funeral Home, Bournemouth BH7 6AN.

PEACOCK - Anne Alison. On August 1st peacefully at sea sailing home from Norway in celebration of her 70th birthday. Thanksgiving *Service on Tuesday August* 12th at 2:00pm in St Mary & St Thomas a Becket Church, Much Birch, followed by Cremation in Hereford. No flowers please. *Donations* between The League of *Friends* No 1 Ledbury Road, Hereford and the Treloar Trust c/o of Colin Quinsey, Abbotsfield Funeral *Directors*, Monkmoor Street, Hereford HR1 2DX. 01432 356445.

PULLEN - Lester. Funeral will be held at St. Christopher's Church, Lyford Cay, Nassau, at 10am. *on Thursday 7th August.*

PYKE - Brian Raphael. Peacefully at home on 2nd August, 1997. A beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service will be held on Friday, 8th August, 1997, in the Lady Chapel, Hereford Cathedral, at 1.00pm., followed by private cremation. *No flowers* by request, but donations if desired for the British Heart Foundation may be sent to Dawe Bros., 115 Westfaling Street, Hereford.

ROUSE JONES - Lewis on 1st August, *after a short illness*. Much beloved father of Isabel, loving grandfather of Amanda, Emily and Daniel. Longtime member of the Inner Temple. Funeral on Friday 8th August, 12.30pm, at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium, Benhall Mill Road. Donations if wished to Age Concern, c/o Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1SB.

SIMON - Ulrich Ernst. Funeral Service at 2pm on Friday 8th August at All Saints Church, Durham Road, East Finchley.

SHEARER - Thomas Albert. On 30th July 1997 peacefully in *hospital fortified by rites of* Holy Mother Church Tom aged 54 years. Dearly loved son of Annie and the late Thomas (R.I.P.). Loved *brother of Michael*, brother-in-law of Helen and a much loved uncle. Tom will be sadly missed by his family and many friends and collegues at Leicester University. Tom will be received into Christ the King R.C. Church, Walkden on Thursday August 7th at 7.30pm. Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Friday August 8th at 12 noon prior to interment at St Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Wardley at 1pm. A Memorial Service will be held for Tom at Leicester University in October. No flowers please, *all donations to* The *T.A.S.* Memorial Fund c/o Caxton Maple, Stamford Hall, Stoughton Drive South, Leicester LE2 2ND. All enquiries please to Laithwaites Funeral Service 139 Manchester Road East, *Little Hulton*, Manchester Tel: 0161 790 2063.

TAIT - Peacefully at St John's Hospice, London NW8 on 2nd August 1997. Walter retired lecturer of The Hammersmith and West London College. Beloved brother of Andrew and Nan. Funeral Service at West *London Crematorium on* Friday 8th August 1997 at 2.15pm. All friends and colleagues respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, but donations in lieu in favour of St John's Hospice, and all enquiries to A. France & Son, 45 Lamb's *Conduit Street, London* WC1N 3NH. Telephone 0171 405 4901.

THOMPSON - David Ross, on 31st July 1997. A wonderful person, an inspiration to all. Private burial service at 12 noon on Thursday 14th *August 1997 followed by* Thanksgiving Service for all his friends at 2pm in St Peter and St Paul Church, Appleford, near Abingdon. Flowers or donations to the Red Cross c/o P L Barrett 81 Ock Street, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 5AG.

THORNTON-PETT - George Peter. Husband of Alex. Died August 3rd, at home in his 78th year, will be greatly

WHARTON - Doreen Lilian. On Monday August 4th 1997 in her 88th year, of Eastbury Manor Nursing Home, Compton, Guildford. *Beloved* wife of Clifford, dearly loved mother of Jane, Sylvia and Elizabeth and grandmother of Gillian, Paul, Amanda, Sophie and Mark. Family cremation will have taken *place. Service of* Thanksgiving at St. Nicholas Church, Compton on Thursday August 14th at 12 noon. No flowers, but *donations to Q.E.F.D.*, Leatherhead Court, *Leatherhead, Surrey* KT22 0BN. Funeral Directors J *Gorringe & Son*. Tel: 01483 416403.

WHITFIELD - see Winder.

WINDER - Melanie Jane. (née Whitfield) on 3rd August 1997 aged 44, after a long courageous fight against cancer. Loving mother of Victoria and Claire and much loved *sister* of Deborah. Funeral service at Lambeth Crematorium, Blackshaw Road, SW17 on Friday 8th August at 11.00 am. Family *flowers* only, donations if desired to The Trinity Hospice c/o Edwin Bassett, Funeral Directors, 0171 228 0360.

WOODHOUSE - Marjorie (Peggy). On 5th August peacefully in her sleep at Higher Melcombe. Dearly *loved wife of Jock* and mother of Michael and William. Greatly loved by all. Funeral 2.30pm Monday 11th August at St Andrew's Church, Binghams Melcombe. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Macmillan Nurses. All enquiries through *Woods* (Dorchester) Ltd, 11A Icen Way, Dorchester DT1 1EW. Tel: 01305 262666.

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ISABEL DEAN

Isabel Dean, actress, died on July 27 aged 79. She was born on May 26, 1918.

It was fitting that Isabel Dean should die the day before her great friend, Rosalie Crutchley, for in so many ways their careers followed very similar patterns. Where Isabel was strikingly beautiful in a classical vein, Rosalie had the dark beauty of the Mediterranean. Both came to the stage almost as a second choice. Rosalie Crutchley had been a pupil at the Royal College of Music, whereas Isabel Dean — who was an extraordinarily talented artist — started out as a student at the Birmingham School of Art. It was only after her art school training that she joined the Cheltenham Repertory Company — and then initially in the humble role of a scenic painter.

Dean, who never considered herself to be a great beauty, could not understand how she graduated to acting, though one contemporary in the Cheltenham company recalled that she was so ravishingly good-looking that everyone employed at the theatre felt it could only be a matter of time before she stood in front of the footlights.

Repertory at Cheltenham — which at least avoided the agonies of the noisy tea matinées then practised at Folkestone — made way for seasons at Brighton and Norwich. She was next lucky enough to be summoned to appear in the West End, first at the Vaudeville Theatre as Maggie Buckley in Agatha Christie's *Peril at End House* in 1940, then as Mariana in *All's Well That Ends Well*. In 1943 at the Phoenix she joined John Gielgud's revival of Congreve's *Love for Love*, in which she played Jenny. It was here that she first worked with Rosalie Crutchley, who was Angelica in the same production.

After a season at Robert Atkins's Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park, where in 1944 she played Rosalind in *As You Like It*, she rejoined the Gielgud company. The much-praised brilliance and style of his *Love for Love* at the Phoenix had paved the way for his star-studded season in 1944-45 at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, where the Congreve play was presented again with four other classics. Dean understudied Peggy Ashcroft as Ophelia in *Hamlet* and was very proud to have played the role on several occasions. (Years later, in 1977, her delight in playing opposite Gielgud in Julian Mitchell's *Half-Life* at the Cottesloe — and later the Duke of York's — knew no bounds: she seemed to have forgotten her success as a wilful Hermia in Nevill Coghill's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* 32 years earlier during the Gielgud Haymarket Season in 1944-45.)

After the Haymarket, Dean joined the Oxford Playhouse Company, for which she played a number of leading roles, having a particular and unexpected success as the working-class Sally in Ronald Gow and Walter Greenwood's *Love on the Dole*.

After fulfilling other theatrical engagements — some of them in and around London though not often on the West End stage — she first featured on television in 1949, where she became very well-known, particularly through *The Quatermass Experiment*. She had entered films some years earlier, playing a minor part in *The Man in Grey* in 1943, but her first notable appearances were in *Twenty-Four Hours in a Woman's Life* (1952), *The Story of Gilbert and Sullivan* (1953) and *Out of the Clouds* (1955). Later film appearances included *A High Wind in Jamaica* (1965) *Inadmissible Evidence* (1968) and *Oh! What a Lovely War* (1969).

Sadly, though, she never seemed to get the opportunity to play in the great classics in London, even though her work was impeccably stylish and professional. She soon realised that to play the parts she coveted she had to appear in the major provincial theatres, where she was a tragically moving Hester Collyer in Terence Rattigan's *The Deep Blue Sea* at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford, in 1971, and again at the Nottingham Playhouse the following year. It was immediately after the Rattigan play at Nottingham that she revealed a delightful sense of comic flair at the same theatre in Joe Orton's *What the Butler Saw*.

She created Her Ladyship in the premiere of Ronald Harwood's *The Dresser* at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, in 1980. Her last appearance on the London stage was at her favourite Theatre Royal, Haymarket (and later at the Comedy Theatre), as the tragic mother in *Breaking the Code*, Hugh Whitemore's play based on the career of Alan Turing, ten years ago. On television her last major performance was in an episode of *Inspector Morse* in 1988, an opportunity she seized with relish.

Her career then wound down, for she had been far from well for a number of years, but though increasing problems prevented her any longer from tackling theatre and television, until comparatively recently she worked in radio (always a favourite medium).

Ill-health also did not deter her from her work as a leading member of the Equity Council, which she undertook for many years. She worked tirelessly for the betterment of actors, and the esteem in which she was held was reflected in the votes she regularly gathered at every election.

Dean was an intensely private person and a perfectionist in every way. Possibly because of these characteristics, she was often misunderstood and she found it very difficult to explain herself, though she was generally right.

She married in 1953 William Fairchild, the writer, but the marriage was dissolved in the early 1970s. She is survived by her two daughters.

BERNARD WHEELER ROBINSON

Bernard Wheeler Robinson, physicist and musician, died on July 7 aged 93. He was born on June 8, 1904.

FROM the time he founded Music Camp in the 1920s, Bernard Wheeler Robinson occupied a unique position in amateur music-making.

The son of a distinguished theologian, he read physics at Trinity College, Cambridge, after which he researched X-ray crystallography at the Royal Institution in London, and lectured at the Military College of Science at Woolwich. During the war he spent three years at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, and from 1948 to his retirement in 1964 he was superintendent of the applied physics division at the National Physical Laboratory.

While at Cambridge he had been active as a violinist and conductor, and in 1927 he and some friends enjoyed a holiday at Poynders End in Hertfordshire, playing music in the village hall and camping in a field nearby. It was so successful that it became an annual event. There were soon two summer camps each year, at which chorus and orchestra rehearsed, as well as the annual reunion, when a major work was rehearsed over a weekend. In London, Robinson conducted several choirs and orchestras.

In 1935 a permanent home was found for Music Camp at Bothampstead, near Newbury, where the campers came to make music and maintain the property. Formal camps ceased during the war, although there were weekend visits, but the programme was resumed in 1946. The postwar improvement in the standard of amateur music enabled the campers to tackle repertoires which would have been impossible in 1927.

The rollcall of musicians who cut their teeth with Robinson is long and distinguished. As Colin Davis wrote in 1977, "there are few places where you can, in the course of ten days, sing music by Josquin Desprez, take part in a Strauss tone poem, grapple with the last act of *Meistersinger* and at the same time become acquainted with the masterpieces of chamber music".

Robinson's view was that those participating should bring their own sleeping facilities, pay their way, and help to run the camp. No one, however eminent, should ever be paid. It was music for the sake of it. The atmosphere and the opportunities to explore the repertoire were sufficient reward. There were, however, some who found the conditions too spartan.

When Robinson retired in 1964, he and his second wife Elizabeth bought Pigotts, Eric Gill's old house and fields near High Wycombe, as a home for both themselves and Music Camp. As there was no building big enough for a large orchestra and chorus, Robinson invited campers to subscribe what they would expect to spend on a night out, and with the funds and a deal of voluntary labour he designed and built the barn, which is still in use most weekends during the warmer months, with programmes ranging from children's events to opera.

In 1981, after organising the 100th camp, he retired from active music organisation, but continued to live at Pigotts, to play chamber music and occasionally conduct old friends, still encouraging the true amateur love of music. Pigotts now belongs to Nicholas and Rachel Wheeler Robinson, his son and daughter-in-law, and Music Camp continues to flourish.

In Music Camp, Robinson achieved something that largely eludes today's music organisers: he found a way to foster the talents of good musicians who wish to continue as amateurs throughout their life. A violinist of no mean ability, he was an autocratic but inspiring conductor with an enviable knowledge of his scores. He brought the best out of people, because they wanted to play their best for him.

He could be ruthless with those he felt did not come up to scratch but he was a true friend to those in need. In *An Amateur in Music* (1985), he proudly wrote that he thought that Music Camp had "made an appreciable and detectable effect on the general improvement and better standards in amateur music".

Bernard Wheeler Robinson was first married to Alice Dodds, a gifted musician and pianist who died in 1958. Secondly, he married the cellist Elizabeth Orloff-Davidoff, who died in 1976. He is survived by the son from his first marriage.

ARTHUR JEPSON

Arthur Jepson, cricketer and footballer, died on July 17 aged 82. He was born on July 12, 1915.

ARTHUR JEPSON was one of those rare sportsmen who achieved distinction at both cricket and football. He was a lively fast medium bowler for Nottinghamshire, a goalkeeper for three clubs and later an umpire for a quarter of a century who officiated in four Test matches. His career in professional sport spanned six decades.

The son of a miner, Arthur Jepson was born in the village of Selston, on the outskirts of Nottingham, and spent most of his life in the Midlands. He joined Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club in 1938 and was awarded his cap the following year. Had it not been for the war, during which he served as a sergeant in the RAF, he would have taken many more than 1,051 first class wickets at an average of 29.08. He played with three outstanding cricketers at Trent Bridge: Joe Hardstaff, Harold Larwood and Bill Voce.

As a goalkeeper, Jepson was on the staff of Port Vale before playing 28 times for Stoke City — the great Stanley Matthews was a colleague — and 58 times for Lincoln City. He also appeared for Mansfield Town in some matches during the Second World War. He was able to combine careers in the two sports, because in those days the football and cricket seasons did not overlap to the extent that they do today.

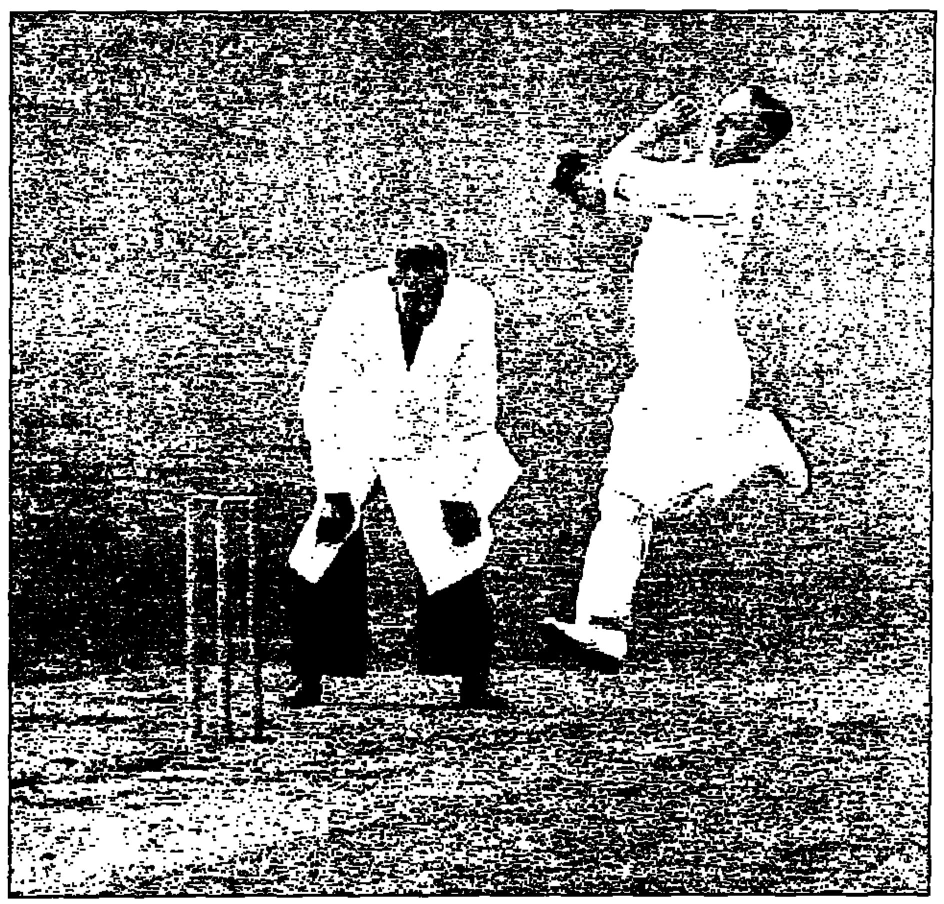
Jepson's most successful year as a professional cricketer was in 1947, when he took 115 wickets. He captained Nottinghamshire in 1955 and played, in all, in 390 first class matches. A hard-hitting lower-order batsman, typical of his day, he played his cricket in an aggressive, sometimes argumentative, Australian-like way. He was only interested in playing to win. Yet he also had a dry sense of humour, which particularly manifested itself when he retired in 1959 and became a first class umpire.

He swiftly established a good rapport with county and Test cricketers, whose company he always enjoyed. Indeed, he liked to mix with all sportsmen, particularly golfers. He would go horse racing and derived much pleasure from his modest betting. As a professional performer himself, he was not averse to giving incoming batsmen the benefit of his wisdom when they came to the crease in a match he was umpiring. He would tell an individual to push forward on a particular pitch and that the bowling was rubbish, only to give him out, with a disconcerting apology, when hit on the front pad.

When Jepson retired from umpiring in 1984, the MCC presented him with a grandfather clock. He was generous in passing on his knowledge to the next generation of umpires, who included Ray Julian, Mervyn Kitchen and David Sheppard. He lived with his wife, Florence, at Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire and helped his son, a golf professional, to run an equipment shop. Jepson had received a benefit fund of £2,000 from his county in 1951, a reasonable sum at the time.

In 1970, Jepson was given a suspended jail sentence for theft. He disputed the charges and refused to divulge the name of the man who, he claimed, had given him most of the stolen goods in the Tavern at Lord's. Ronald Poulton, the secretary of Nottinghamshire CCC, told the court that Jepson was "one of the most loyal members the club had ever had and he is held in the deepest respect".

Arthur Jepson is survived by his wife, son and daughter.



Arthur Jepson coming in to bowl for Notts against Surrey in a match at the Oval

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Scheme for the amendment of previous Scheme
Reference: A/R/262261-19653/CS(Liv Admin)

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 2 CRANE COURT FLEET STREET LONDON EC4A 2BC (Ref: CRW), or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, 2nd floor, 20 Kings Parade, Queens Dock, Liverpool, L3 4DQ, quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

LEGAL NOTICES

BAIRN PROPERTIES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that on 16th July 1997 R A Segal of A Segal & Co, Albert Chambers, 221-223 Chingford Mount Road, London, E4 8LP was appointed Liquidator of the above named company by the Members.
DATED THIS 16.7.1997
R A Segal (Liquidator)

Creative Sales Ltd
The Insolvency Act and Rules 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, P S Dunn of Lubbock Crossley & Davis, Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1H 3FF, give notice that on 29 July 1997 I was appointed Liquidator by resolutions of members. Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 29 August 1997 to send in their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned P S Dunn of Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1H 3FF, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution. Note: This notice is purely formal. All creditors have been or will be paid in full.
Dated: 29 July 1997
P S Dunn,
Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986
REGENTISE LIMITED
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF on 13th August 1997 at 11.00 am, for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days immediately before the day fixed for the Meeting.
Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge (unless attending in a personal capacity) a proxy, at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, no later than 12 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the Meeting. Creditors intending to vote at the Meeting must lodge a full statement of account with their proxies. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, a Creditor will not be entitled to vote unless a claim has been lodged and admitted for voting purposes. Secured Creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and the assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting. Resolutions to be taken at the meeting may include a resolution specifying the terms on which the Liquidator is to be remunerated, and the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
By Order of the Board
I H Holloway, Director

TELEPOWER SYSTEMS LTD
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER: 1335141
On 28 July 1997 the above company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Martin Fishman of 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT, was appointed Liquidator by the Members. The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to Martin Fishman, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT by 28 September 1997. The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A(6) that on 28 October 1997 he intends to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 28 September 1997 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved.
The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full.
MARTIN FISHMAN Liquidator
Date 1.8.97

No. 003184 of 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
MR REGISTRAR BUCKLEY
WEDNESDAY 30 JULY 1997
IN THE MATTER OF BRODERICK STRUCTURES LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 30 July 1997 confirming the cancellation of the sum of £2,438,000 standing to the credit of the share premium account of the above Company and the reduction of the share capital of the above Company from £1,500,000 to £1,068,000 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 31 July 1997.
DATED 1 August 1997
Macfarlanes, 10 Norwich Street
London, EC4A 1BD
Tel: 0171-831-9222,
(Ref: WCD/644926)
Solicitors for the above Company

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PETRO, I forgive you, please come home.

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Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

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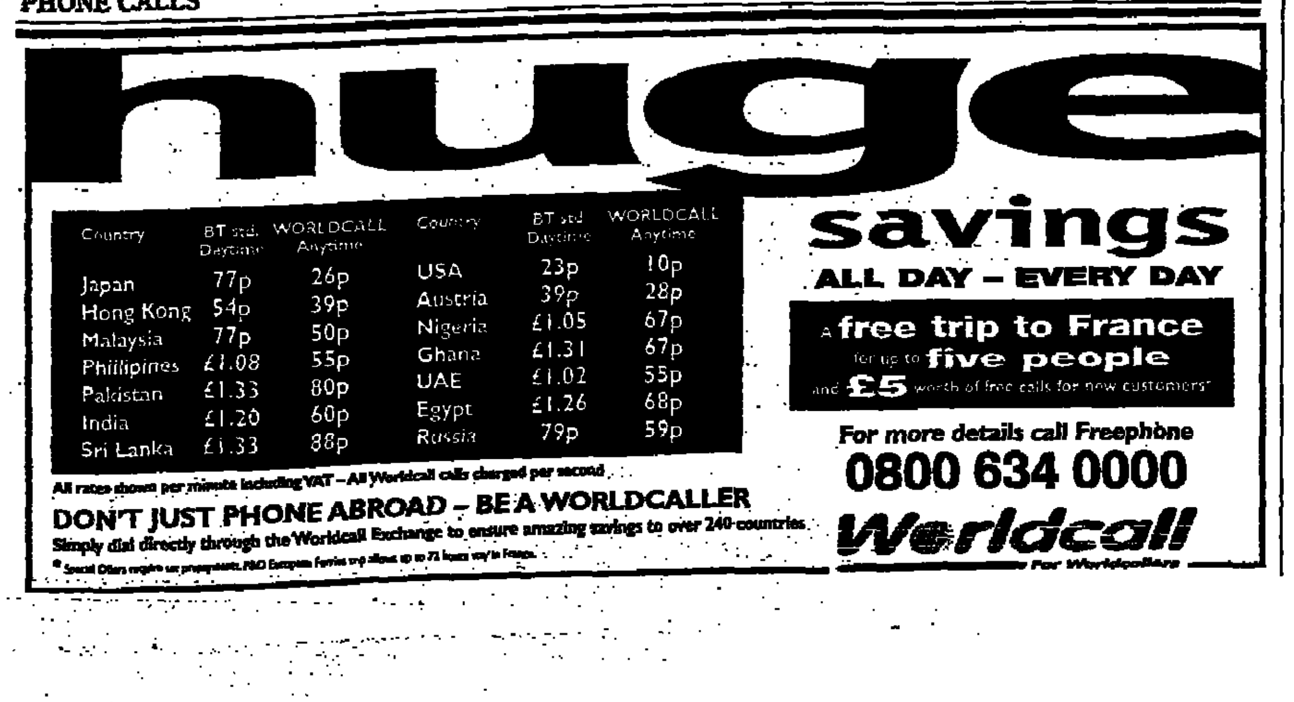

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Philippines	£1.08	55p	Ghana	£1.31	67p
Pakistan	£1.33	80p	UAE	£1.02	55p
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ON THIS DAY

August 6, 1914

As the nation began to accustom itself to wartime, The Times *offered admirable sentiments supported by a sample of letters urging more practical measures.*

HOW TO BE USEFUL IN WAR-TIME.

We are receiving a constant stream of letters containing suggestions for personal conduct or useful action in the national emergency. *We publish a selection from them below.* They vary, no doubt, in value and publication does not imply endorsement of any particular suggestion. But they all reflect the intense interest and desire to help which animates the whole population, and they will, we hope, encourage the spirit of duty, unselfishness, restraint, and consideration for others which it behoves us all to cherish to the utmost. There are some simple things that all can do and others that all can avoid.

First and foremost. — Keep your heads. Be calm. Go about your ordinary business quietly and soberly. Do not indulge in excitement or foolish demonstrations. Secondly. — Think of others more than you are wont to do. Think of your duty to your neighbour. Think of the common weal. Remember those who are worse off than yourself. Pay punctually what you owe, especially to your poorest creditors, such as washerwomen and charwomen. If you are an employer think of your employed. Give them work and wages as long as you can, and work short time rather than close down.

To the Editor of the Times

Sir, — When I went to the Army and Navy Stores yesterday I was disgusted to see hundreds of people whom one cannot dignify by calling men and women, laying in tons of provisions. It is a time of war, and we are fighting for our existence as a nation. Surely the Government ought to confiscate these private stores, and fine and imprison the selfish brutes who are hoarding them.

Your obedient servant,
J C Ker Fox, Brevet Major.

Sir, — Many civilians who are too old to volunteer are asking how by personal service they can help their country. May I suggest that for the next few weeks they could not do a greater service than help to gather in the crops, which in many parts of the country are heavier than usual. There will be scarcely a rural parish in England which will not have lost some of its harvesters, and every sack of wheat safely gathered in will enable at least two men in the fighting line, whether on sea or land, to be kept there for thirty days.

Your obedient servant,
Reginald J N Neville.

The Rev. James Redfearn writes from Maindee, Newport, Mon:— "I suggest that the breweries and distilleries be closed down and the grain used for food. It is vastly more important that the millions of our people have cheap bread than beer."

Mrs. Irene Osgood writes from Guilsborough Hall, Northampton:— "I should like it to be known to the military authorities that I am prepared to place my houses and grounds in this district at their disposal for the reception of wounded officers and men. I feel confident that many other owners of country houses will gladly do the same."

Mr C.P. Felton, of Paris, and of 4, Beach-mansions, Southsea, points out that it is vital for us to see that the French harvest is reaped. He has written to the French Minister of Agriculture on the subject, and will be glad to receive names and references of 50 men at least 38 years of age, but under 50, who would offer their services should the French Minister of Agriculture require them.

As its rivals scramble, ITV looks ahead with optimism

Oasis of calm among the shifting sands

What did Adam say to Eve as they left the Garden of Eden? "We live in an age of transition." This useful public platform joke does not explain why some transitions are so much easier than others.

The BBC is in a state of permanent revolution. Those Radio 4 changes? Not dumbing down, but tidier packaging, which will bear watching for the same effect. And Channel 4 is not having a smooth passage from the Michael Grade to the Michael Jackson administration. The time of the "body bags" is said to be over, but as these contain several who gave their hearts and souls to Channel 4, the shock will take time to fade. What's more, Channel 4 needs a replacement for the excellent Sir Michael Bishop, departing under a political change of climate.

BRENDA MADDOX

The supposedly cutthroat commercial world of ITV seems a haven of peace in comparison. The current holders of franchises are now assured of gliding into the next century with secure tenure and possibly lower rent.

Thanks to the Independent Television Commission, their regulator, the 14 ITV companies and GMTV, which holds the national breakfast slot, will not have to gamble at auction for the right to stay on the air for another ten years. Instead, they can apply for renewal as much as four years in advance of their licence's expiry date, 2002. That's like renewing a library book well ahead of time so that you can enjoy it.

Of course, there are conditions attached. The ITV companies must behave themselves. They must keep their programme promises. And they must pay the price that the ITC sets to stay where they are. But the new formula is reasonable, and will eliminate the grotesque variations the 1990 Thatcherite auction produced. Those who desperately overbid to secure their licence now are expected to lead the pack for earlier renewal.

In the draft renewal procedures, the ITC has come up with nothing that was not allowed for in the 1990 Broadcasting Act, provisions for quietly modifying the savagery of the auction having been tucked into the small print. Yet the ITC's interpretation of the rules has been imaginative and open. Public comments are invited, submissions will, unless secrecy is requested, be made public and modifications will be incorporated. How very different from the take-it-or-leave-it BBC.

The striking feature of the view from the top of ITV is that its regulators like what they see. The ITC observes no need for structural alteration either to the shape of the ITV regions or the allocation of broadcasting hours. "Viewers are broadly happy," says the ITC.

The major reform will come in the way the ITV companies reimburse the Treasury for the privilege of exploiting a national resource, the airwaves. The proposal for reform acknowledges two facts. One is that the anomalies of the 1990 auction were of no service to the viewer. Yorkshire Television bid nearly £38 million a year, while richer Central, so strong it has had no rival bidders, got away with a derisory £2,000 a year. The corollary is that Michael Grade did ITV as well as Channel 4 a favour when he vociferously argued that any money unnecessarily taken out of a television channel could be better spent on programmes. Recently ITV leaders have been heard arguing for getting "our money back" just as Mr Grade did.

Some of ITV's companies will now see their payments reduced. The ITC itself will set a price for each licence based on its estimate of the current market value. Then it will require an additional extra payment based on a certain share of each company's advertising revenue. This second variable will be given more weight than recognition of the fact that filling television air time is a risky business and likely to become more so.

The air of calm and sweet reason at the ITC stems in part from the relative simplicity of its mandate. Prickly questions of schedule and staff morale are the worries of the component companies, not the regulator. But the ITC has also benefited from a smooth transition from one regime to another. Sir Robin Biggam, as chairman and Peter Rodgers, as chief executive, have taken over from Sir George Russell and David Glencross with none of the Year Zero drama that too often accompanies a change of institutional command.

As a result ITV, for all its sliding, ageing audiences, has a clear view of its future. The business of ITV is business, and possibly the new ITC leaders are even more sympathetic to that idea. One sign is big 'un's willingness to think the unthinkable and allow ITV to move the *News at Ten*. With news bursting out all over television — and movies too — it does seem a bit hard-hearted for the ITC to insist that every weekday's ideal film time on ITV should be broken by a half-hour-worthy non-fiction.

If the *News at Ten* should shift, can Channel 4's leisurely 7 o'clock news from ITN survive at 50 minutes? With 30 minutes about to become Radio 4's preferred length, the ruminative, essay-filled news bulletin looks like an endangered species.

The Client's Story

The naked model can't help expressing his enthusiasm for the art student's scent

● IMPULSE BODY SPRAY

THE CLIENT:
Grazicla Calfat, 27, European Innovation Manager, Impulse, Elida Fabergé.

WHAT OTHER CAMPAIGNS HAVE YOU BOUGHT?
I am from Brazil. The only ads in this country have been the launch of iD fragrance (different women floating between bar code lines) and *Car Crash* for Impulse.

THE AGENCY:
Ogilvy & Mather.

WHAT'S THE PLOT? A student is late for her art class. As she rushes by the model, he captures her scent. Something starts to happen to him and the whole class starts to laugh. She is the last to notice what has happened. He was having a — how can I put it? — natural, physical reaction.

WHAT'S THE STRATEGY?
As always, that a man can't help acting on Impulse. But we wanted to change the executional device in a challenging, innovative way.

WAS IT EXPENSIVE?
It cost half a million pounds. I don't think that was cheap but I think it was good value for what it was.

AT WHOM IS IT AIMED?
Our target audience is 16 to 22-year-olds. Girls who are looking for a good quality fragrance that is also fun and witty. Quite stylish, if you like.

ANY CENSORSHIP PROBLEMS?
The ITC ruled that we made different versions according to the age of the audience. There is a version where the pack stands up at the end which can only run in the cinema. The same ad runs on TV all over Europe. This country is the only one where they have these restrictions.

WHAT WERE YOU LOOKING FOR IN THE MAN?
Not the macho type. Quite sensitive. Not only worried about the body but also the emotions. Not a bimbo.

AND THE GIRL?
We want girls to look at her and say: "She's like one of my friends." Not threatening.

WAS HE REALLY NAKED?
No. But once, for a particular shot, he had to remove the pouch. Everyone was giggling. The make-up artist was gay and had to put concealer on the actor's bottom. His hands were shaking.

WEREN'T YOU A BIT, EM, EMBARRASSED WHEN THEY SHOWED YOU THE SCRIPT?
Actually, I read the script at home. I was laughing. If you are open-minded, you would react in the same way.

WHAT'S THE BEST AD YOU'VE EVER BOUGHT?
This one. Sales are doing very well but, obviously, it has just started.

AND THE WORST?
It was for Close-Up toothpaste. It was basically a very dull story. A girl was looking on the carpet for her contact lenses. A guy helps her and they get close, which is the brand idea. It never ran. It was so bad I said I'm not gonna air it.

DAVID MCGRATH

TV to show more ads?

Viewers' groups want less not more advertising, says **Alex Benady**

This is a nervous time for advertisers and commercial terrestrial TV channels as the Independent Television Commission considers proposals to increase the amount of advertising allowed on television.

ITC rules permit an average of 7½ minutes advertising an hour between 6pm and 11pm and seven minutes for the rest of the day. But the advertising industry wants this gradually increased to nine minutes to bring terrestrial TV into line with satellite and the rest of Europe.

The ITC's ruling, due next month, could have a profound effect on the £3 billion-a-year TV advertising market. It has also provoked an intense debate. At the heart of the matter is the issue of spiralling costs on ITV. During the past two years, prices have risen by up to 40 per cent for some audiences. One 30-second advertisement during *Coronation Street* or *Inspector Morse* now costs up to £120,000.

"The problem is that mass-market brands need ITV. It is still the only way to reach mass audiences. But recently the demand for air time has shot up, while ITV audiences have slumped," says Bernard Balderstone, of Procter & Gamble, the UK's largest TV advertiser and one of the leading lights behind the proposals.

The advertisers hope that an increase in the supply of advertising time will drive prices down.

TV stations are shy about stating their position publicly. One would expect ITV to favour the moves. Though it would welcome any extra revenue, it is worried that an increase in advertising time would reduce its negotiating power with the advertisers. More significantly, it doesn't want to appear too greedy because the ITV companies have to renegotiate their licence fees with the ITC.

The ITC says viewers' interests will be paramount. Paul Smee of the ITC says: "We will consider not only the effect on advertisers, but also the effects on programming, the financial positions of the stations and most importantly the effect on the viewing public."

Thirty seconds in prime time can cost £120,000

Predictably, the proposals have been criticised by viewers' groups and consumer representatives who say there is too much advertising on television already. Benet Middleton, of the Consumers' Association, argues: "These proposals offer no benefit to consumers. More or longer breaks would just make consumers worse off."

Jocelyn Hay, the chairman of the lobby group the Voice of the Listener and Viewer, takes a stronger line. "They will destroy the quality of British television if they are not careful," she says. "Many people will find ads irritating and annoying. They are tolerable in limited doses but viewers will not stand for substantial increases in minutage."

The advertisers counter that more ads will lead to more revenue which should lead to better-quality programming and economic benefits.

Despite the alliance of advertisers, agencies and some stations, it seems likely that this particular battle will be lost.

However, if the ITC rejects their proposals, some advertisers say privately they will consider an appeal to Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, and, failing that, they could then appeal to either the Office of Fair Trading or the European Court, claiming an unfair restraint of trade.

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When I arrived at my personal crossroads I made the difficult decision to try something new.

In my first year I earned 47k. For the last 3 years I've earned 'in excess' of 150pa. I go home at 5.30 and never work at weekends. My kids go to private school. I have two luxury cars and a house in France. I'd like a mistress in Mayfair, but...!

Selling advertising space is not beneath me at all and it could be good for you.

Call me, Philip Armstrong, personally on 0171 262 4832.

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[illegible]

Moves to put a gloss on television news

The trend towards a cadre of tele-luvvies to present the news is causing resentment, says **Michael Gove**

Sky isn't the only TV station with a Premier League. Both ITV and BBC screen competitions every bit as cut-throat as the football found on satellite. The rivalry between television reporters and news presenters satirised in *Drop the Dead Donkey* and captured by William Hurt and Holly Hunter in *Broadcast News* provide the stories of greatest interest to the nation's newsrooms.

Proof, as if it were needed, comes in an interview in this week's *Radio Times* with the BBC Foreign Affairs Editor, John Simpson. The elegant hero of several Balkan barricades takes a sideswipe at colleague Martin Bell and Martyn Lewis, the sunny apostle of the good news gospel. His argument, that news needs neither an "involved" approach nor geeing-up with happy talk, is impeccable but the real interest lies in the glimpse the interview gives into the ego-jostling of television's finest.

Simpson is also honest enough to admit that there is a point to the recently circulated BBC memorandum, which suggests "difficult" foreign news is made more accessible if relayed by glamorous presenters, whether it's Chris Evans, Ulrika Jonsson or the newsroom swells. The prospect of an elite cadre of tele-luvvies chosen on ground of glamour appears to be spreading. The always *soigné* Simpson need have little to fear. Other reporters, however, are grumbling under their mikes about the move towards stardom for some and legwork for the rest.

The suggestion this week that ITN is grooming a famous five of super-hacks to front its biggest reports has set cameras wobbling at ITN's Gray's Inn Road headquarters. The company strenuously denies any such exercise is taking place but denials have not ended speculation.

The rumours do not imply an unconditional surrender to *the stylists'* comb. The names mentioned by ITN moles — Tim Ewart, Caroline Kerr, *Paul Davies*, Jo Andrews and Colin Baker — are no Tania Bryers. Although they all possess screen "presence", they are also all accomplished journalists. The trend, however, to project certain stars can put backs up in egalitarian broadcasting circles. Producing a television news bulletin is a collaborative venture, and while some are happy to finger the clipboard many of those who itch to appear in front of the camera resent the emergence of a reporting elite.

Cynics believe that the trend is another transatlantic import. The influence of the United States on our screens may be most obvious on Friday nights with *Friends* and *Frasier* but Jennifer Aniston isn't the only American model to get British executives excited. American newsgathering techniques and presentation innovations are studied as assiduously as any ratings in Television Centre.

One presenter or two? Well, what does CNN do? More carefully crafted packages? Well, they're moving more to live links Stateside, so get the reporter breathless and chatting urgently to the studio ...

In my own time at the BBC, I remember television executives breathless and urgent after seeing the American documentary magazine *60 Minutes*, anxious to emulate its immediacy and authority. Its impact on current affairs producers was as profound as any mission to explain.

Moves to establish more cadres of star correspondents may be an example of native wisdom but the practice has been around in the US for years. To be fair, some of CNN's stars, such as Peter Arnett, have not built their careers on skilful use of the powder puff.

Increasingly, star correspondents are less eye-witnesses and more distant voices. Lowly reporters and researchers are dispatched as "legmen" to conduct interviews and collect pictures that will form the spine of a report narrated by a correspondent who may not have strayed much beyond the cuttings library and the editing suite.

The trend is anathema to men such as Bell and Michael Nicholson. They may have their eccentricities, driving some colleagues to muttered criticism, but none of their peers would deny their reporting is authoritative and bespoke. They have operated in the best traditions of their craft, relying on the footage they secured and their presence at the scene to give the viewer the big picture.

They are, however, increasingly seen as yesterday's heroes. Executives do not want to risk their stars straying too far from their contractual commitments or the studio. Reporters at the BBC used regularly to grumble about the dominance on the *Nine O'Clock News* of star names, such as the former Social Affairs Editor Polly Toynbee, when broadcasts had grown out of the work of others. For some, the practice of allowing bigger beasts to elbow juniors out of the way blunted the incentive to produce original journalism. Why dig so hard when the treasure would rest in another's hands?

And, usually, well-manicured hands at that. Although the ITN famous five, unlike their TV-am forerunners, have a sound track record in the newsgathering front line there is a growing perception that fortune favours the babe.

Broadcasting's greats were figures who wore authority, rather than Armani, lightly. John Cole, Peter Snow and Alistair Burnet had personalities formed in the field and faces that showed it. The prominence now given to presenters such as Channel 5's Kirsty Young and some of ITN's *Boys Own* heroes irks more grizzled operators.

It would be wrong to suggest that the Atlantic tide of froth will sweep over all the familar contours of quality broadcasting. Both *Channel 4 News* and *Newsnight* give prominence to reporters on the basis of hard journalistic ability, develop their own young talent and give them a chance to shine. In both programmes, the quality of the reporting and analysis has been held to be sufficient to hold the viewer without the need for star-making. Reporters such as Elinor Goodman, Mark Mardell and Evan Davies command an audience with the natural authority of experts whose reports bear their distinctive signature. They do not need to rely on either "projection" from executives or cannibalising the work of others to excel.

Discerning viewers have come to trust reporters who rely on contacts and rigour for their prominence rather than their place in an executive strategy. Picking winners is as likely to fail in broadcasting as it has done in every other industry. The stories, and the viewers, should be the judge and jury.

BBC

John Simpson says news needs neither an "involved" approach nor geeing-up with happy talk

FACES TO TRUST

Mark Mardell, Peter Snow and Martin Bell — authoritative voices you can trust

THE GLAMOUR BRIGADE

Kirsty Young, Chris Evans and Ulrika Jonsson — making news more accessible?

THE LISTENER

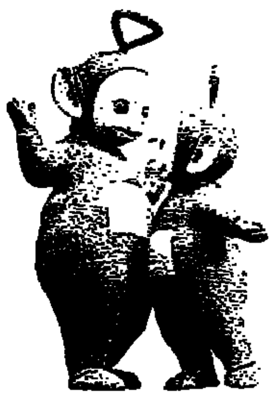
THE NEWS BEHIND THE HEADLINES

R4 runs with Black?

FEMALE knees are weakening at Broadcasting House over rumours that the handsome athlete **Roger Black** is about to become the new voice of sport on Radio 4. Executives are said to be courting the 400m hero to present a regular slot on the new Friday-night programme that will replace *Sport on 4*, axed last week. So far, the BBC refuses to confirm the rumours, but female staff are said to be thinking of organising a campaign. An insider says: "We are living in hope, great hope."

Tinky tale

THE much-publicised departure of Tinky Winky from the hallucinatory world of *The Teletubbies* was not as unexpected as it may have seemed. In the new BBC magazine, *Teletubbies*, Tinky Winky is suspiciously absent from a picture line-up. Scandalously, his place is taken by a big brown bear. BBC insiders say the magazine was being printed weeks before it was revealed that **Dave Thompson**, the actor inside the Tinky suit, was leaving.



Tinky Winky and Po

However a BBC spokesman denied victimisation of Tinky Winky. "To suggest a conspiracy is ridiculous," he said.

Shake it up

JOURNALISTS at *The Guardian*, where the laid-back pace of life and complicated union agreements belong to an age long forgotten in the rest of Fleet Street, could be in for a few shocks. **Bob Gavron**, the millionaire printing businessman who became chairman of the newspaper in January, has got his feet under the table and has been telling friends what he thinks of the place. "It's great," he says. "But I would like to see it become a bit more commercial. The only thing is that there isn't a single accountant on the board. It would be nice to have someone who could count." The newsroom's sandal-wearers are said to be thinking of clubbing together for an abacus.

Black: sports voice?

Too Frank

PITY **Frank Johnson**, Editor of *The Spectator*, who apparently lacks the courage to print the articles he commissions. Last week, Johnson invited **Alan Rusbridger**, *The Guardian's* Editor, to write a reply to the *Spectator* columnist **Paul Johnson**, who has tirelessly berated him in the magazine for his role in the Aitken case. On reading the copy — which included references to Johnson's wife, **Marigold** — the Editor decided it was too cruel for his magazine. Rusbridger, now preparing to join Cabinet members in Tuscany for the summer holidays, is unimpressed. A Farringdon Road voice says: "He thinks it's rather pathetic of Frank."

Spin doctors in overdose

PAPER ROUND

Nicholas Lloyd

At a dinner party in the mid-1980s with newspaper editors and political insiders, I discussed how a famous Tory bigwig might tell the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of the forthcoming exposé of his alleged relationship with a woman other than his wife.

Despite a great deal of mirth and some wit, no guest came up with a sensible solution to this daunting task, but I was reminded of that evening when I read the astonishing story of Robin Cook's secret affair with Gaynor Regan, his Commons secretary.

Admittedly, Tony Blair is nowhere near as terrifying as Mrs T, but one can't help wondering exactly how Mr Cook broached the subject when he telephoned the PM on the first day of his three-week summer holiday in Tuscany. For as Mr Blair unpacked his swimming togs in the sumptuous borrowed villa he must have felt things were going remarkably well.

Yes, there was the surprising by-election loss in Uxbridge and a bumpy Question Time about Lord Simon of Highbury's shares. But there was a great deal to celebrate in an impressive 100 days of Labour rule.

These happy musings, however, were rudely destroyed by the ringing of the scrambled hotline with Mr Cook, the man who introduced ethical considerations into the Foreign Office mission statement, telling the PM what the *News of the World* was about to tell everybody else. As Harold MacMillan pointed out nearly 30 years ago: "Events, dear boy, events," cause governments the most trouble.

Yet some of the handling of this tricky personal scandal underlines how much new Labour has learnt about dealing with the media from the mistakes of the last Government.

There was no humiliating hide and seek routine with journalists as there was with Tory Minister Tim Yeo. No family man stunts, as with David Mellor.

Mr Cook was wheeled out to make a personal statement for the Saturday evening television newscasts *before* the *News of the World* exclusive was on the streets.

Secondly, Downing Street instantly issued a statement both humane and worldly. In an ideal world, said the statement, all marriages would be lasting but the truth was "these situations do arise and the Prime Minister hopes Robin and Margaret can be left to rebuild their lives".

But then Labour's enthusiasm for spin doctoring went too far. The Sunday newspapers were fed details about a new plan to save the Royal Yacht *Britannia* and *The Sunday Times* was briefed that Chris Patten, the former Governor of Hong Kong and possible future Tory leader, could be prosecuted for allegedly leaking classified documents about a secret deal with China over Hong Kong's future.

On Sunday morning Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio, gave the story a boost by saying in a much-flagged appearance on the BBC's *World This Weekend* that a Government investigation would take place.

The Tories cried foul, and by Tuesday the conduct of Labour's spin doctors had become a front page story in its own right.

"Blackening someone like Chris Patten by virtually suggesting that somehow he has betrayed the national interest, in order to get Cook's little local difficulty off the BBC News, is going too far," a political editor told me.

The current Patten smear row apart, most lobby correspondents have so far grudgingly admired Labour's ability to control the information available to the press.

But this has made ministers and MPs reluctant to utter anything except the Government's agreed line, making the lobby correspondent's job much more difficult.

"Not many Labour people are prepared to have lunch," I was told. "Certain trusted new Labour chaps like Stephen Byers and Geoff Hoon are used to put across the message Blair wants, but most fear they'll get the chop if they say something out of turn.

"There's a definite policy of minimising contact with the press."

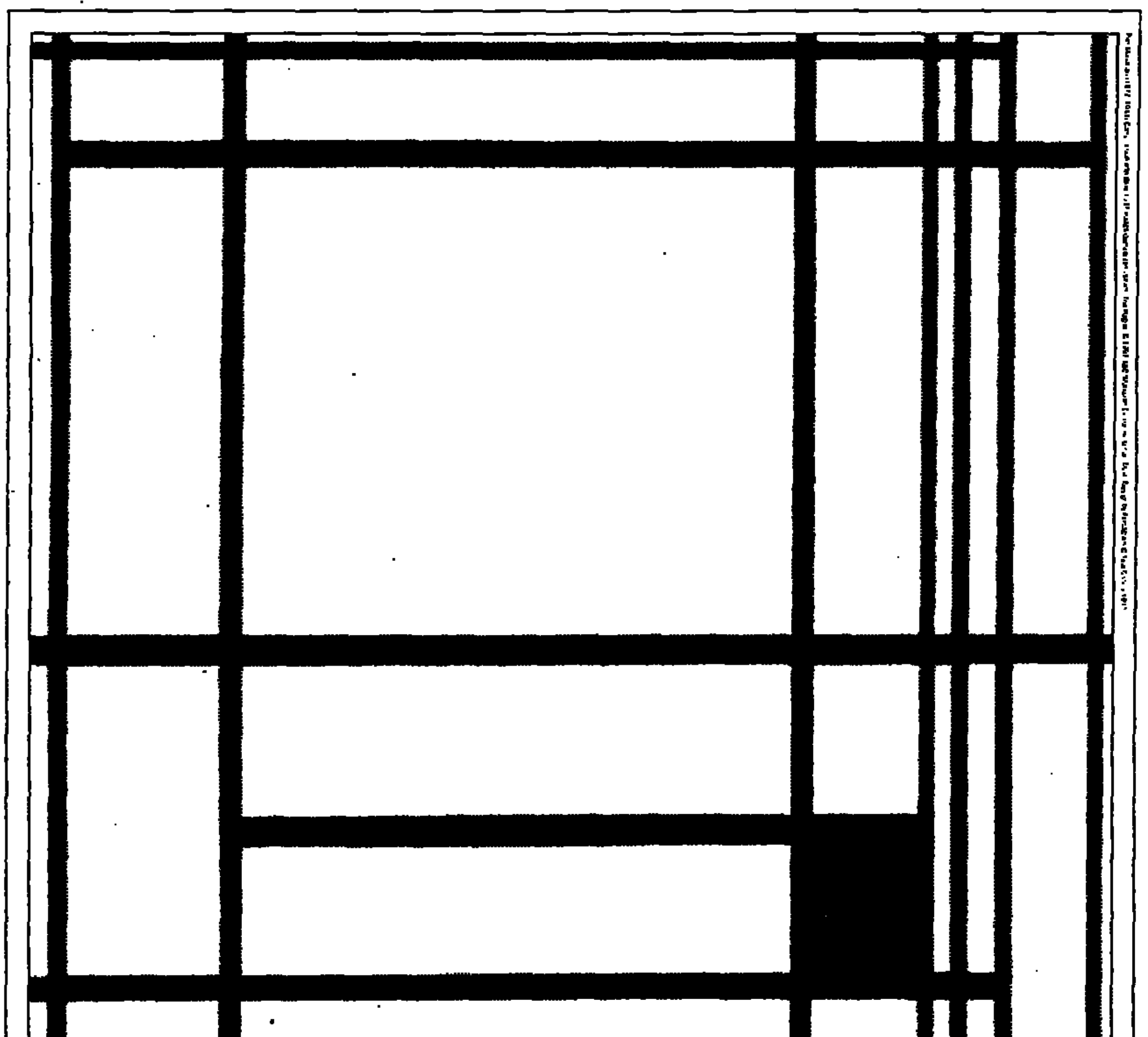
It will be fascinating to see if Downing Street can continue to keep the lid on Labour MPs who become disgruntled when leaky ministers are fighting for limited spending resources or, worse, some are embittered by sacking.

Meanwhile, Mr Mandelson and Downing Street have ruefully learnt that while you can fool some of the press some of the time, you can't fool all of the press all of the time. They stand accused of going over the top to have the Cook scandal played down.

Good spin doctors should be heard but not seen. And they certainly should not become the subject of embarrassing front page stories.

● *Brian MacArthur is on holiday.*

> Blackening Patten to get Cook off page one was going too far



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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Simon to sell £2.3 m BP shares

■ Lord Simon of Highbury bowed to political pressure yesterday and announced that he was selling his £2.3 million BP shareholding and giving to charity the £350,000 profit it had accrued since he became a minister.

He said publication of the oil company's second-quarter results meant he would no longer be breaking insider-trading laws if he sold the 270,000 shares. The move by the minister, who gave up a £240,000 salary as chairman of BP to work unpaid for the Government, was part of a Labour damage-limitation exercise..........Page 1

Carey warns of royal marriage crisis

■ The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said the Prince of Wales would plunge the Church of England into crisis if he remarried..........Page 1

Guam air crash

A Korean Air Boeing 747 jet with 231 people aboard crashed on approach to the American Pacific protectorate of Guam. Early unconfirmed reports said there were 29 survivors..........Page 1

Students lose places

More than 50,000 applicants are likely to miss out on a university place this summer as thousands who planned to take a gap year after A-levels seek a university place to avoid losing up to £6,000 under plans to charge for tuition and end grants..........Page 1

Support for Prince

The Prince of Wales has the overwhelming backing of the country's "opinion formers", who believe he should be able to marry whoever he likes..........Page 2

Killer jailed

An alcoholic was jailed for life for beating a boy aged four to death with a hammer. James Reid, 59, blamed his dogs for smearing him with blood..........Page 3

BBC 'fluff'

The BBC appears to have fulfilled an edict to popularise serious programmes with "fluffy" presenters..........Page 4

Cyprus troop ban

Hundreds of British troops were banned from the Cypriot resort of Ayia Napa after four soldiers appeared in court accused of assaulting holidaymakers....Page 5

The fairway sex

Forty nine per cent of male golfers would prefer to play against women more often, according to a survey. But a die-hard group of nine per cent thought women and golf were incompatible.....Page 5

Crushing taxes

Car tax dodgers received a warning when a white Ford Sierra was fed into a crushing machine to publicise the fate in store for some cars whose owners evade a total of £175 million..........Page 6

Glue deaths

Deaths among teenagers from glue-sniffing and other solvent abuse have increased for the first time in a decade..........Page 8

America 'at war'

A man accused of being behind the New York World Trade Centre bombing in 1993, in which six people died, said he wanted to "kill thousands" and let Americans know "they were at war", a State prosecutor said........Page 9

Southern victory

Students returning to the University of Mississippi will find they have won their battle to preserve the image of "Ole Miss" as a fortress of the Old South Page 10

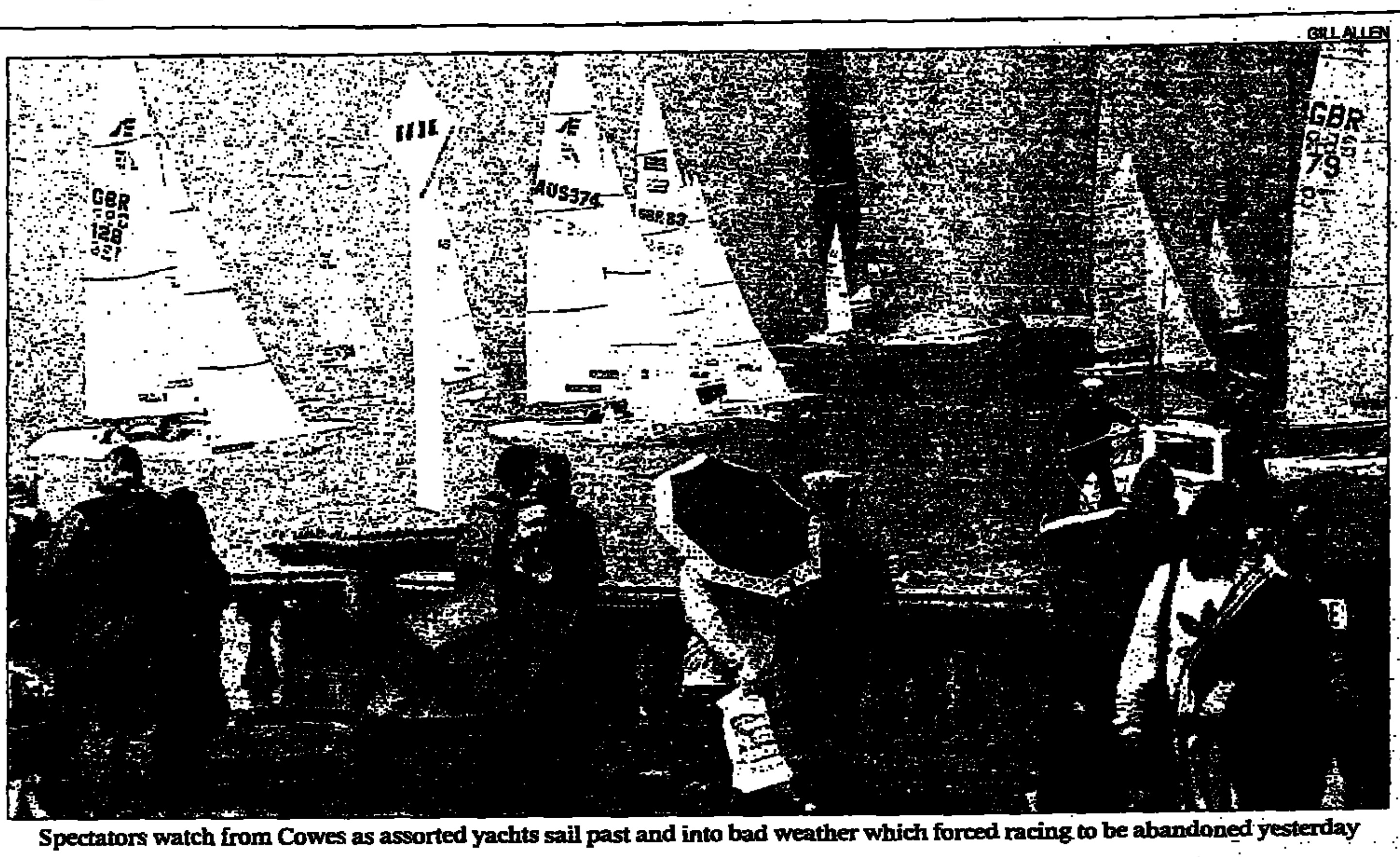
Mir blast-off

Russia's future in space is in the hands of two veteran cosmonauts who blasted off to repair the space station Mir, hours after its oxygen generators failed.......Page 11

Furtive smokers are put out

■ Companies, particularly in the City of London, are cracking down on workers driven outside by office smoking bans, and are stopping them from using entrance steps or even car parks. Some employees have been sacked for smoking on the doorstep. In America, President Clinton is to sign a decree banning people from smoking near federal buildings.. Page 3

GILL ALLEN



Spectators watch from Cowes as assorted yachts sail past and into bad weather which forced racing to be abandoned yesterday

BUSINESS

Scrutiny rejected: The Government's proposals for constant scrutiny of how companies are run in Britain were rejected by Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman of a committee of industrialists..........Page 23

GEC changes: George Simpson, the GEC managing director, signalled further corporate changes for the industrial group with the appointment of the Zeneca finance director to the board..........Page 23

BP shares: Plans for a share buyback announced by BP sent shares up 40½ p to 862½ p . Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 64.9 points to close at 4960.6. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 105.3 to 105.7 after a fall from \$1.6306 to \$1.6268 but a rise from DM3.0394 to DM3.0564 ...Page 26

SPORT

Cricket: The strategic plan for the English game proposes a reformed county championship, building to play-offs, smaller county staffs and a streamlined one-day structure.......... Pages 40, 44

Athletics: Steve Backley finished second in the javelin at the world championship in Athens, but Britain's finalists finished out of the medals in the 400 metres . Page 44

Rugby union: Tony Hallett confirmed his resignation as secretary of the Rugby Football Union after two difficult years..........Page 37

Football: The England coach, Glenn Hoddle, views the absence of Alan Shearer and Robbie Fowler from forthcoming World Cup matches as windows of opportunity for others.......... Page 38

ARTS

Special reductions: From Friday the Reduced Shakespeare Company will have three shows running in the West End ....Page 14

Zulu Macbeth: The Globe resounds to African singing and dancing this week as *Umabatha* transposes *Macbeth* to 19th-century Zululand in an exhilarating production..........Page 14

School's in: The Dartington International Summer School is celebrating its fiftieth birthday in the usual manner — with a glorious mix of musicians..........Page 15

Rising star: Joseph Phibbs has been composing since he was ten. Now, at 23, his songs and music adorn the New Shakespeare Company's open-air production of *Watership Down*..........Page 15

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FILMS

Burt Reynolds, left, and Rowan Atkinson as the bumbling eponymous *Mr Bean*.

■ INTERVIEW

Noreen Taylor talks to the potter Heather McCartney, the daughter Paul adopted

FEATURES

High street switch: Ren Pearce and Andrew Fionda set out to design expensive clothes for an exclusive clientele. Now, says Grace Bradberry, they are to design a collection for Debenhams Page 12

Five go mad: *This Life* and *Friends* have suddenly made Bridget Harrison part of a new phenomenon. Five girls in their twenties, living together in a chaotic terraced house in, er, Shepherds Bush...... Page 13

[illegible]

Relax: Branda Maddox explains why ITV channels can relax about franchise renewal.......... Page 20

Unlovely: Michael Gove explains why the trend to a cadre of teleluvvies to present the news is causing resentment..........Page 21

[illegible]

Outlook sunny: It is probably the world's biggest solar-heated office block, and it is being built not in Africa or Australia, but in the North of England. Eve-Ann Prentice reports..........Page 30

[illegible]

In exactly one month we will know if Rome has been chosen to host the Olympic Games in 2004. Rome is a unique combination of ancient and modern, and in this lies its greatness. It can either become a city of the past like Pompei or a great modernised world capital of the future. — *Il Messaggero*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: How 39 members of a religious cult committed mass suicide. *Inside Story* (BBC1, 10pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond on a familiar Gulag story..........Pages 46, 47

OPINION

Chinese whispers

The British public should be told whether "intelligence material" was, as Mr Mandelson asserts, unlawfully disclosed, and by whom. The people of Britain and Hong Kong have the right to know what took place..........Page 17

Simon's sale

A week ago Mr Blair told William Hague to "grow up" when he raised this issue with the Prime Minister. It now seems that he or his associates have urged Lord Simon to sell up..........Page 17

A better game

Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, English cricket's "doctor", yesterday unveiled his new prescriptions for the diseases that afflict the game..........Page 17

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

The Edinburgh Festival is merely a set of arts events staged in Scotland. The National Eisteddfod is a competitive olympiad dedicated to literature and song in one cultural tradition..........Page 16

ALAN COREN

Thirty times a day for the past 40 years, I have run the risk of those humiliating blows to *amour propre* that only the serious smoker experiences..........Page 16

SIMON BARNES

One has to wonder about a system that rewards second-best over a winner. Are we talking sporting excellence? Or are we talking about stringing along as many people for as long as possible in the name of rather spurious entertainment?..........Page 37

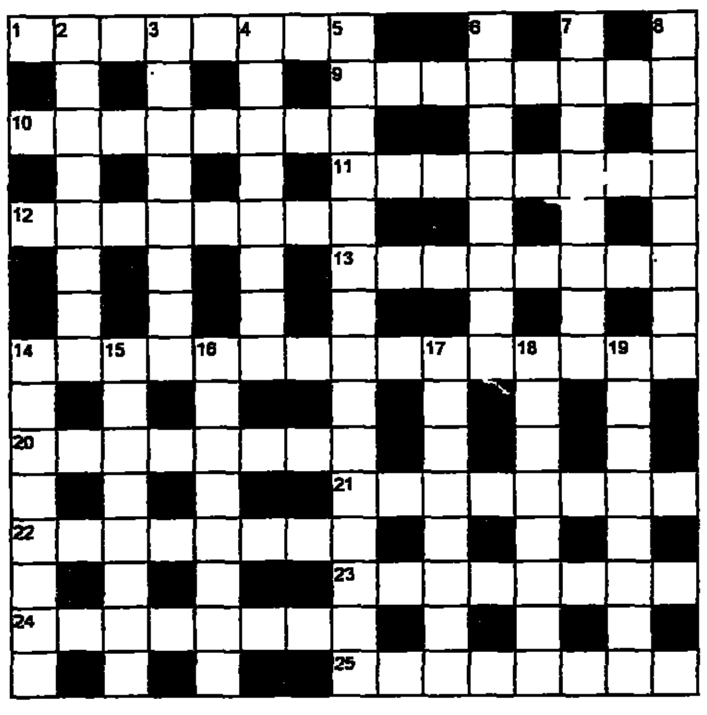
[illegible]

Isabel Dean, actress; **Bernard Wheeler Robinson,** amateur musician; **Arthur Jepson,** cricketer, footballer and umpire..........Page 19

[illegible]

No. 10's control of ministers; "duplicity" in government; Labour and unions; Boosey and Hawkes; PoW campaign; Oxford tutorials; low-flying game birds; Avebury peacocks..........Page 17

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,551



ACROSS

1 Buy in volume from this regular supplier (4.4).

9 Attack at the front — retreating, nothing is captured (8).

10 One should declare income and odd extra earnings received (9).

11 Peace-loving American took the plunge with object of affection (8).

12 Wishing to acquire a desirable property? (8).

13 Augustus, once a month, prepared to go flying (8).

14 Ready to counter blow of the axe (6.9).

20 Trapped by a crowd, brother gets into scrap (8).

21 From which workers are liable to come out en masse? (4.4).

22 Almost speaking out before time — a dangerous situation (5-3).

23 Women celebrating imminent formation of union? (3.5).

24 Minimising target presented, like an old sage? (8).

25 Great trouble besetting family in the course of recovery (8).

DOWN

2 Employed by decorator, I often work in church (8).

3 Given a smoke, when needing to be cured? (8).

4 Yard gets in the act — significant sign for amateurs (8).

5 Paternal attempts to include RE separately for people of like mind (5.2.1.7).

6 They regulate people's pursuits (4.4).

7 Foreign girl raises a little drink I raise? Not quite (8).

8 The queen may appreciate their feelings (8).

14 It's silly getting involved with gas in an abstracted way (8).

15 Sort of cross with fall in traditional teaching (8).

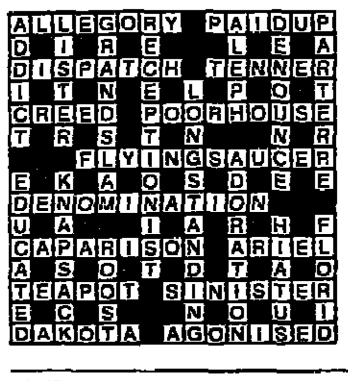
16 Winger's performance well below par with low shot (5.3).

17 Faulty CD — it isn't very clear (8).

18 Alter ego overcomes Scottish explorer in part of London (4.4).

19 A capital two-part collection of verses covering a century (8).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,550



Times Two Crossword, page 44

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Moon rises 8.46 am

First quarter August 11

London 8.40 pm to 5.32 am

Bristol 8.50 pm to 5.43 am

Edinburgh 9.10 pm to 5.28 am

Manchester 8.56 pm to 5.34 am

Penzance 8.57 pm to 6.00 am

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** Wales, central and southern England will be cloudy and muggy with a few showers. Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England will be fine and dry with clear spells, although North Sea coasts may be cloudy.

☐ **London, SE England, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands:** warm and humid with a few showers. Wind light, east to southeast. Max 25C (77F)

☐ **E Anglia:** some early mist and low cloud on the coast, but warm with some sunny spells later. A light to moderate east wind. Max 23C (73F).

☐ **E England, NE England:** some early mist and low cloud, then warm with sunny spells. Light to moderate east wind. Max 22C (72F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales:** warm with sunny spells and a few showers, some heavy. A moderate east wind. Max 22C (72F).

☐ **NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England:** mostly dry with periods of warm sunshine. A light east or northeast wind. Max 23C (73F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** early cloud and mist, then dry with sunny spells. Wind moderate, southeast. Max 21C (70F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** dry with some sunny spells. The northwest will turn more cloudy later. A light northeast wind. Max 22C (72F).

☐ **Outlook:** warm and humid in the south. The north and west will become cloudier with increasing chance of rain.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

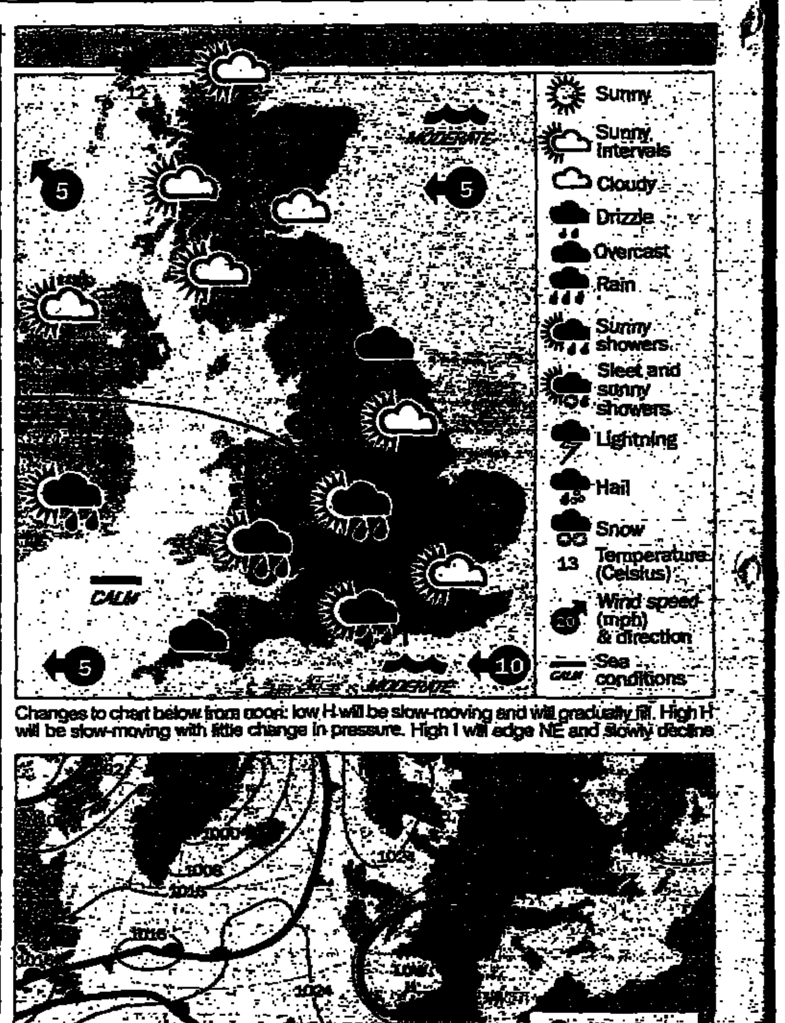
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	13.8	-	19	66	s
Anglesey	2.1	0.01	21	70	b
Aviemore	11.8	-	25	77	s
Belfast	9.7	0.02	20	68	s
Birmingham	6.8	0.01	24	75	s
Bognor R	3.2	0.23	21	70	sh
Bournem'th	-	0.70	20	68	r
Bristol	0.1	0.28	20	68	r
Buxton	4.1	-	17	63	s
Cardiff	-	0.80	17	63	t
Clacton	10.7	-	19	66	s
Cleethorpes	4.9	-	19	66	b
Colwyn Bay	2.5	0.05	20	68	c
Cromer	7.3	-	18	64	b
Dunbar	1.9	-	17	63	b
Eastbourne	5.4	1.53	21	70	c
Edinburgh	7.2	0.01	18	64	s
Eskdalemuir	6.0	-	19	66	b
Exmouth	-	0.24	17	63	r
Falmouth	5.0	0.24	19	66	s
Fishguard	-	0.30	17	63	r
Folkestone	9.9	0.17	22	72	s
Glasgow	6.3	-	20	68	s
Guernsey	1.7	0.02	21	70	c
Hastings	8.0	0.38	23	73	b
Herne Bay	9.0	0.10	20	68	s
Hove	4.2	0.13	23	73	c
Hunstanton	7.7	-	19	66	s
Isle-of-man	10.8	0.01	19	66	s
Isle-of-wight	0.7	0.61	19	66	r
Jersey	0.7	0.04	23	73	c
Kinloss	11.3	-	23	73	s
Leeds	2.0	-	20	68	b
Leuchars	8.4	-	18	64	s
Littlehmptn	3.2	0.24	22	72	t
London	6.9	0.01	23	73	s
Lowestoft	11.6	-	20	68	s
Manchester	8.3	0.01	21	70	s
Margate	8.9	-	21	70	s
Minehead	-	1.57	17	63	t
Morecambe	5.9	-	21	70	s
Newcastle	6.1	-	18	64	c
Newquay	3.1	0.50	19	66	s
Norwich	10.6	-	21	70	s
Oxford	0.9	0.12	21	70	r
Penzance	X	0.28	20	68	s
Ross-o-wye	-	1.33	20	68	sh
Salcombe	-	0.35	18	64	c
Scarboro'	3.9	-	19	66	c
Skegness	5.3	-	18	64	b
Southend	8.6	0.05	21	70	s
Southport	9.4	-	21	70	s
Southsea	4.4	0.34	24	75	r
Stornoway	11.2	-	17	63	s
Swanage	0.1	0.80	19	66	sh
Tenby	-	2.02	17	63	r
Tiree	10.1	-	19	66	s
Torquay	-	0.41	17	63	d
West-s-mare	-	1.45	19	66	t
Weymouth	-	0.63	18	64	r

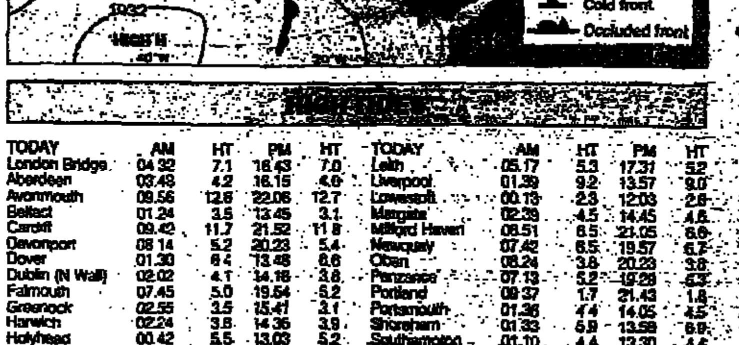
ABROAD

	C	F	
Ajaccio	29	84	s
Akrotiri	28	82	s
Alex'dria	30	86	f
Algiers	27	81	f
Amst'dm	22	72	s
Athens	32	90	f
B Aires	8	46	f
Bahrain	39	102	s
Bangkok	29	84	f
Barbados	25	77	f
Barcelona	29	84	f
Beirut	29	84	f
Belgrade	26	79	f
Berlin	26	79	f
Bermuda	30	86	f
Biarritz	23	73	c
Bordx	27	81	f
Brussels	21	70	f
Budapst	28	82	f
Cairo	32	90	s
Cape Tn	14	57	f
Ch'church	7	45	f
Chicago	26	79	s
Cologne	23	73	f
Corfu	29	84	s
C'phagn	21	70	r
Dublin	14	57	r
Dubrovnik	27	81	s
Faro	24	75	s
Florence	32	90	s
Frankfurt	27	81	f
Funchal	23	73	s
Geneva	26	79	s
Gibraltar	26	79	f
Helsinki	24	75	f
Hong K	30	86	f
Innsbrck	27	81	f
Istanbul	25	77	f
Jeddah	36	97	s
Jo'burg	20	68	s
L Angels	24	75	s
L Palmas	25	77	s
Le Touquet	25	77	f
Lisbon	23	73	c
Locarno	27	81	s
Luxembg	27	81	f
Luxor	39	102	s
Madrid	30	86	f
Majorca	32	90	d
Malaga	30	86	s
Malta	27	81	f
Melb'rne	8	46	s
Mexico C	19	66	f
Miami	33	91	s
Milan	30	86	s
Montreal	22	72	s
Moscow	18	64	c
Munich	26	79	f
N Delhi	31	88	s
N York	25	77	s
Nairobi	X		
Naples	31	88	f
Nice	28	82	s
Oslo	25	77	s
Paris	32	90	s
Peking	33	91	s
Perth	19	66	c
Prague	24	75	s
Reykjavik	12	54	c
Rhodes	29	84	s
Rio de J	27	81	s
Riyadh	43	109	s
Rome	29	84	s
S Fr'isco	19	66	s
S Paulo	X		
Salzburg	25	77	s
Santiago	7	45	s
Seoul	21	70	r
Sing'por	32	90	f
Stkholm	23	73	c
Strasb'rg	28	82	s
Sydney	14	57	c
Tangier	26	79	s
Tel Aviv	30	86	s
Tenerife	26	79	s
Tokyo	31	88	s
Toronto	24	75	f
Tunis	33	91	s
Valencia	29	84	f
Vanc'ver	26	79	f
Venice	27	81	f
Vienna	25	77	s
Warsaw	23	73	f
Wash'ton	X		
Wel'ngton	7	45	c
Zurich	27	81	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Tuesday. X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: low H will be slow-moving and will gradually fill. High H will be slow-moving with little change in pressure. High I will edge NE and slowly decline



[illegible]

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	04.32	7.1	16.43	7.0
Aberdeen	03.48	4.2	16.15	4.0
Avonmouth	09.56	12.8	22.06	12.7
Belfast	01.24	3.5	13.45	3.1
Cardiff	09.42	11.7	21.52	11.8
Devonport	08.14	5.2	20.23	5.4
Dover	01.30	6.4	13.48	6.6
Dublin (N Wall)	02.02	4.1	14.18	3.8
Falmouth	07.45	5.0	19.54	5.2
Greenock	02.55	3.5	15.41	3.1
Harwich	02.24	3.8	14.36	3.9
Holyhead	00.42	5.5	13.03	5.2
Hull (Albert D)	08.52	8.5	21.18	8.3
Ilfracombe	08.38	8.7	20.48	8.8
King's Lynn	08.56	6.6	21.25	6.2
Leith	05.17	5.3	17.31	5.2
Liverpool	01.39	9.2	13.57	9.0
Lowestoft	00.13	2.3	12.03	2.6
Margate	02.39	4.5	14.45	4.6
Milford Haven	08.51	6.5	21.05	6.6
Newquay	07.42	6.5	19.57	6.7
Oban	08.24	3.8	20.23	3.8
Penzance	07.13	5.2	19.28	5.3
Portland	09.37	1.7	21.43	1.8
Portsmouth	01.36	4.4	14.05	4.5
Shoreham	01.33	5.9	13.58	6.0
Southampton	01.10	4.4	13.30	4.4
Swansea	08.58	9.2	21.13	9.2
Tees	06.12	5.3	18.34	5.0
Walton-on-N	02.17	3.9	14.27	4.0

All times BST. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Aviemore, Highland, 25C (77F); lowest day max: Fair Isle, 16C (61F); highest rainfall: Tenby, Pembrokeshire, 2.02in; highest sunshine: Lerwick, Shetland, 14.2hr.

[illegible]

Total number of lives saved so far this year:	393
Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year:	1,753
Cost to RNLI per day:	£193,000
Cost to taxpayer:	£0
To make a donation, telephone:	0800 543210

Lifeboats

Royal National Lifeboat Institution

Reg. Charity No. [illegible]

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THE TIMES 2

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6 1997

NatWest chiefs hit at 'fevered' speculation

ASHLEY COOMBES

Derek Wanless, left, with Lord Alexander yesterday

BY ROBERT MILLER
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

NATWEST Group's most senior executives have launched a bid to keep their jobs and to prove the troubled bank has an independent future as it produced a disappointing set of half-year results.

Lord Alexander of Weedon, chairman of NatWest, which announced a 17 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £775 million, before a £106 million charge relating to tax changes in the *Budget, said speculation* about the bank's future had been overblown and fevered.

He also defended his record at the bank and that of Derek Wanless, chief executive. Lord Alexander said that they had taken tough and decisive action where necessary, including the problems of a limping Australian subsidiary, difficulties with its business in Spain, and a "bankrupt" US division.

Lord Alexander, who said improving returns to shareholders was a key priority, added: "There have been tough, clear decisions."

Mr Wanless said that NatWest, *which lifted its interim* dividend 10.4 per cent to 10.6p, payable on October 8, *had a strong independent* future. Earnings per share were 28.5p, compared with a first-half loss last year of 6.3p, where the figures were distorted by writeoffs.

The main drag on progress came from NatWest Markets (NWM), its troubled investment banking arm. Profits from NWM in the six months to June 30, fell by £161 million to £58 million. The cost of the mispricing of interest rate options, revealed in February, is entered in the NWM accounts at £85 million. General *dealing profits at NWM fell to* £265 million, compared with £307 million previously.

The Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the City watchdog for brokers and futures dealers, is investigating the NWM options losses and it is likely that disciplinary action may be taken against the bank for a failure of management controls.

The star performer in the NatWest portfolio was its UK retail banking operation, which more than doubled its pre-tax profits to £453 million from £222 million last time.

Staff numbers fell by 2,700 at NatWest UK, which is on target to reduce its branch network to 1,750. Income from card services rose 18 per cent *to £28 million and insurance* services saw income grow £6 million to £60 million. The *NatWest mortgage book grew* 10 per cent to £13.8 billion.

Elsewhere in the group, Lombard increased profits by £5 million to £110 million and the Ulster Bank group, which is still keen to buy TSB Ireland, contributed £70 million, *an increase* of £4 million.

Coutts, the private bank, saw pre-tax profits rise £3 million to £51 million although provisions for bad and doubtful debts jumped to £23 million, from £3 million, after a "one-off" £13 million writedown arising from "an incident" with a customer in America that it refused to explain further.

NatWest Wealth Management, which includes Gartmore, the fund manager *acquired last year and whose* chief executive, Paul Myners, was appointed to the main NatWest board yesterday, saw profits rise to £67 million from £52 million.

NatWest shares lost 35p on the day to close at 835p.

Commentary, page 25

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4960.6	(+64.9)
Yield	3.38%	
FTSE All share	2314.74	(+24.34)
Nikkei	19514.45	(−153.62)
New York:		
Dow Jones	8197.52	(−0.93)*
S&P Composite	952.61	(+2.31)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%*	(5½%)
Long Bond	101[illegible]*	(101[illegible])
Yield	6.49%*	(6.48%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	7[illegible]%	(7[illegible]%)
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	114[illegible]	(114[illegible])

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6258*	(1.6315)
London:		
$	1.6274	(1.6309)
DM	3.0579	(3.0398)
FFr	10.3220	(10.2520)
SFr	2.4955	(2.4879)
Yen	193.84	(192.80)
£ Index	105.7	(105.3)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.8795*	(1.8660)
FFr	6.3520*	(6.2950)
SFr	1.5348*	(1.5251)
Yen	119.14*	(118.35)
$ Index	106.8	(106.2)

Tokyo close Yen 118.62

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Oct)	$19.50 ($19.45)

GOLD

London close	$319.55 ($323.65)

* denotes midday trading price

Mark under pressure

THE mark fell further against sterling and the dollar as the Bundesbank failed to open the door for higher mark interest rates. Sterling ended nearly two pfennigs higher at DM3.0564 in London, sending its index up from 105.3 to 105.7.

In New York, the dollar surged from DM1.8663 overnight to above DM1.88. *Some German analysts have* identified a rate of DM1.90 as the point the Bundesbank would need to act.

Otmar Issing, Bundesbank chief economist, admitted to a German magazine that the mark was second only to *money supply in interest rate* policy. He said: "It's not the level, but the rapid decline in *the value of the mark that is a* cause for concern."

Industrial output, page 24

BP rise fuels buyback plan

BY OLIVER AUGUST

PLANS to buy back shares "from time to time" were yesterday announced by BP after record interim profits of £1.5 billion, up from £1.2 billion.

The oil group will start by buying back shares *worth £330 million to expand* its employee share-option scheme during the next few months. BP said it preferred a buyback to issuing new shares.

The size of further buybacks has not yet been fixed, according to the company, which wants to wait for the Government *to announce its changes to* rules on dividend tax credits in March. Shareholders will be asked to approve the buyback plan at the annual meeting next April.

John Browne, chief executive, dismissed accusations that the buyback showed a lack of ideas for what to do with the growing profits. He said BP had several options for continued growth although a substantial UK acquisition was not one of them. He stressed that capital expenditure was up 10 per cent in dollar terms so far this year.

BP shares closed 40½p higher at 862½, half a penny under its record high of 863p last Tuesday. The interim dividend was *10.75p (9.25p). Earnings* per share stood at 20.5p (23.8p)because of exceptional items.

BP said the results were fuelled by higher downstream and chemicals earnings, with volume increases in all areas and further cost savings. Its 1997 goal of improving underlying performance by £200 million was said to have been achieved already.

Simon sells shares, page 1
Tempus, page 26

Hampel report attacked as 'missed opportunity'

BY PHILIP BASSETT
AND JASON NISSE

THE Government's plans for a constant scrutiny of how companies are run in Britain was rejected yesterday by Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman of the committee of industrialists reviewing the proposals.

Sir Ronald, who is also chairman of ICI, said that he saw no need for the Government's proposed standing panel on governance. The interim report of the Hampel committee rejected further rules on corporate governance as well as the principles of the stakeholder democracy espoused by Tony Blair. The *report was attacked by profes*sional bodies, shareholder groups and trade unions as a missed opportunity.

Labour has said it will consider a proposal for a standing examination panel into the way companies are run in the UK. While ministers will not make any early move on the issue, they are *hoping Sir Ronald will change* his stance before publication of the final report this year. *The Department of Trade* and Industry said last night that it hoped publication of the interim Hampel report would stimulate a "lively" debate on corporate governance issues.

The dispute will bring further discomfort to Lord Simon of Highbury, the minster attacked for not selling shares in BP, where he was chairman, *as he is a member of the* Hampel committee.

Launching the inquiry's report, *Sir Ronald said: "We do* not see the need for a permanent panel." While corporate governance issues needed to be examined from time to time, a permanent panel would address itself to "every small pimple" in business.

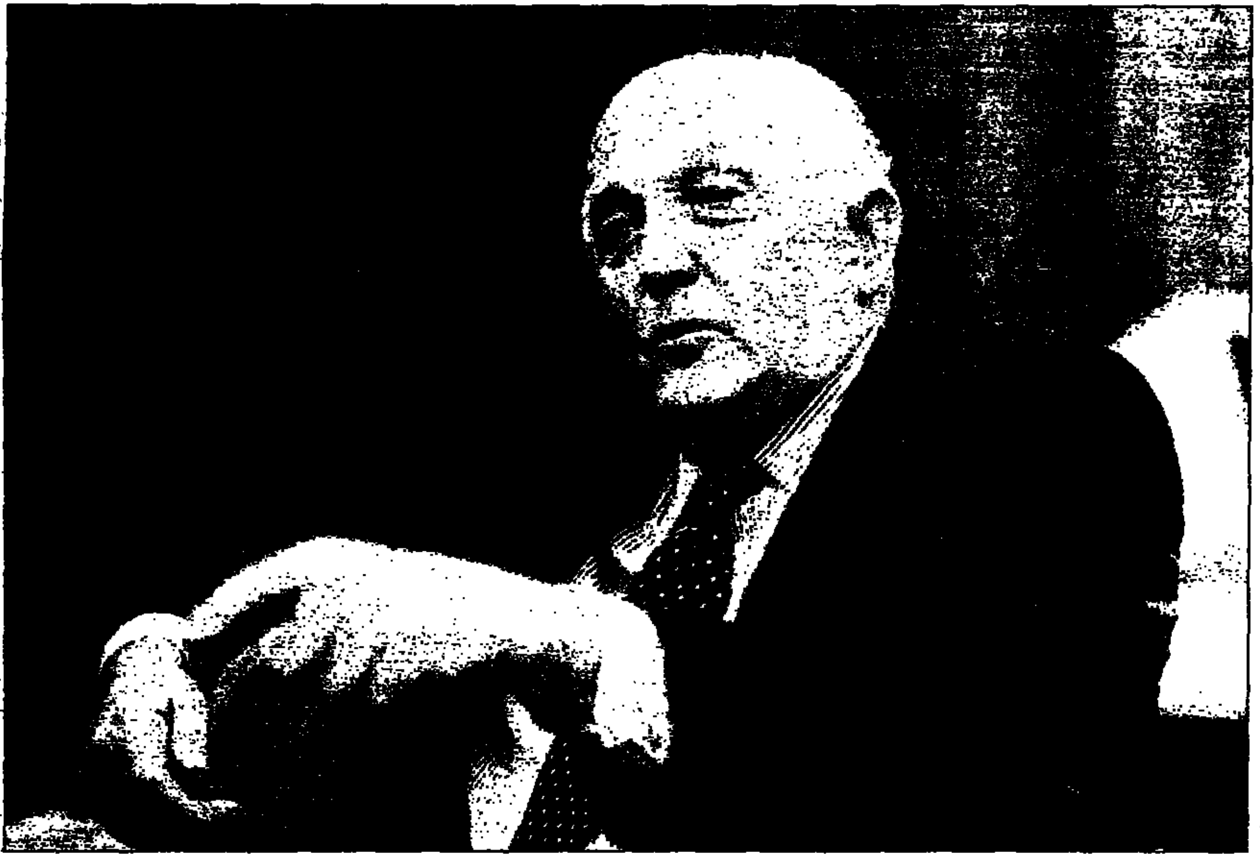
Following the Cadbury and Greenbury reports on corporate governance, he hoped that the Hampel report would be the last for some time though, once responses have been received, Hampel will draw all three together into a single document aimed at improving companies' corporate governance. Sir Ronald said his inquiry might suggest that the Stock Exchange should take responsibility for issuing the compiled report.

Sir Ronald insisted his inquiry had not diluted the recommendations of the previous reports of the Cadbury or Greenbury committees. Their codes and other regulations were supported by the new inquiry, but the inquiry doubted whether the idea of a uniform, code-based approach could be applied to other aspects of corporate goverance beyond the accountability of companies and their boards.

Publication of the interim report drew strong responses. Brendan Barber, deputy general secretary of the TUC, said it was a "wasted opportunity, which leaves key issues unresolved". The "weakness and narrow focus" of the inquiry's report showed that the volun*tary approach to governance* had reached its limit, and he called on the Government to act to tackle short-termism in industry.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants was concerned about the idea that there was no need for rules on the length of service of directors or whether the role of chairman and chief executive should be split. "Principles are fine but they need to be backed up with a fairly robust code," said Andrew Carey of the ICA's corporate governance group. "We agree there should not be a rule book, but it should not be a do-it-yourself manual."

John Kay, director of London Economics and a strong proponent of the stake*holder democracy, said the* Hampel committee had misunderstood the duties of directors of a company. "They have failed to adress the real problem that there is no real accountability of management. Company annual meetings are like East European elections before the Berlin Wall came down."



Sir Ronald Hampel, who headed the inquiry, did not see the need for a permanent panel on governance

Commentary page 25

Zeneca's finance director joins GEC

BY OLIVER AUGUST

GEORGE SIMPSON, the GEC managing director, yesterday signalled further corporate changes for the industrial group with the appointment of John Mayo as finance director.

Mr Mayo, currently the Zeneca finance director, will start at GEC on October 1. He will be succeeded by Jonathan *Symonds who is currently* chairman of KPMG's global pharmaceutical group. He has been working with Zeneca for the past five years.

Mr Simpson said: "John has a well-deserved reputation as one of this country's best finance directors. His experience with Warburg and ICI, where he advised upon the *corporate restructuring of the* company, is highly relevant to the challenges and opportunities now facing GEC."

The appointment of Mr Mayo, 41, is the latest move by Mr Simpson to restructure the group after the departure of his predecessor, Lord Weinstock. David Newlands, the finance director, resigned on Budget day.

Last month, Mr Simpson raised the prospect of a £4 *billion flotation of GEC*-Alsthom, its rail and power joint venture.

Analysts tipping Ladbroke to make offer for Capital Corporation

Beckett blocks LCI bid for casino rival

BY DOMINIC WALSH

Hearn: shock decision hits Capital

LADBROKE Group was being tipped *last night to launch* a bid for Capital Corporation after Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, stopped London Clubs International, the rival casino operator from renew*ing its £190 million* bid for Capital.

Mrs Beckett's shock decision sent Capital's shares 19p lower, to 165p, but analysts expect the shares to bounce back today in anticipation of a bid from Ladbroke. "Ladbroke are definitely interested provided the price is right," one analyst said. "If they could get it for *£2 a share they'd be happy.*"

LCI's hostile bid for Capital was halted in February when the deal was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Yesterday Mrs Beckett decided to block any bid from LCI after accepting the conclusion of the MMC and Office of Fair Trading that it would operate against the public interest. LCI has seven casinos in London while Capital, whose chief executive is Alan Hearn, operates Crockfords and the Colony Club.

Mrs Beckett rejected LCI's argument that the international nature of gambling meant the main competition to London's upmarket casinos came from *overseas establishments. She argued* that even if LCI had agreed to divest one of its own casinos customer choice would have been reduced.

"The MMC found that the relevant market for the purposes of the merger comprised the ten most upmarket casinos in London. If the merger went ahead, LCI would have a share of around 80 per cent of this market," said Mrs Beckett. "The merger would leave customers with inadequate protection against the considerable scope given to LCI to reduce the quality of services and raise charges."

Alan Goodenough, chief executive of LCI, said the decision displayed "a woeful lack of understanding" of the casino business and the tight regulatory control exerted by the Gaming Board. "To suggest this would have given LCI control of charges is a *madness," he added. LCI's shares fell* from 402½p to 386½p, a clear sign the City was expecting clearance. One analyst said: "It's utterly illogical ... It has to be politically driven."

Capital Corp, which has spent £4 million defending itself against LCI, is now expected to take up an option to purchase a third London casino, the Cromwell Mint, for up to £25 million.

Commentary, page 25
City Diary, page 27

"We've fixed our mortgage payments until 2001. Have you?"

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TIM 6/8 FIX

Property firm slips after red warning

By Dominic Walsh

SHARES in Chesterton International, the troubled property consultant and estate agent, dived 23½p to 33½p as the company admitted full-year results would be substantially below expectations and could dip into the red. A final dividend is unlikely.

Michael Holmes, who became chief executive in April, said that figures for the year ended June 30 would be affected by disappointing final-quarter trading, a number of one-off costs and the adoption of more prudent accounting policies. Write-downs of £2.2 million were flagged at the half-year to cover redundancy payments, aborted acquisition expenses and a review of accounting policies.

His predecessor, Giles Ballantine, left last September after the discovery of a £1.4 million black hole resulting from serious accounting errors. The write-off contributed to a collapse in pre-tax profits last year from £5.3 millon to £2.4 million. Mr Holmes said that a review of the company's businesses had found no further black holes, although he had decided to change accounting policies to bring Chesterton into line with competitors.

Fewer than 100 of the close on 2,000-strong staff are likely to be made redundant, but there could be further board cuts, from 13 to 9, he said. An important element of the review had been to free up senior fee-earners who had become bogged down in administration.

Mr Holmes added: "It's about time we started delivering some predictability to shareholders." The business fundamentals were sound and he was confident of its prospects.

Tempus, page 26

Industrial output rebounds more sharply than expected

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

INDUSTRIAL production jumped 1.4 per cent in June, rebounding more sharply than expected as cold, wet weather boosted demand for gas and electricity. In May, output fell 1.1 per cent.

Manufacturing output also recovered more modestly, growing 0.4 per cent in June after a 1.1 per cent fall in May.

Over the second quarter as a whole, government figures and survey evidence from the CBI, the London Chamber of Commerce and the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply confirm that economic growth is still heavily slewed. Services continue to boom, but manufacturing is stagnating as the surge in sterling hits export prospects.

The Bank of England's monetary policy committee, which starts its monthly meeting today, will again be faced with a dilemma. Deals on Liffe project that base rates will rise by at least a quarter point to 7 per cent to curb buoyant consumer spending. Rates are projected to reach 7¼ per cent by end-September.

Manufacturing output, however, was still 0.1 per cent lower in the second quarter of 1997 than in the first quarter. Industrial production, which includes oil and gas, mining and the utilities, rose only 0.4 per cent. Compared with the same period last year, manufacturing was up 1.6 per cent and production 1.3 per cent.

The CBI's regional industrial trends survey found falling export orders hitting manufacturers all round Britain. While domestic orders are good, sterling has left total orders flat or falling in five of the 11 regions. Wales is the worst hit. Apart from the North, all recorded sharp falls in export prospects.

Regions with big foreign investments from companies such as Nissan in the North, Toyota in the East Midlands, and US electronics groups in Scotland are being hit less hard by sterling's strength.

Neil Blake, of Business Strategies, which does the survey with the CBI, said such companies took a longer term view and protected expensive investments from short-term exchange-rate variations. A survey from the London Chamber of Commerce found that while most companies were growing, only 10 per cent reported higher exports, the least for four years.

At end July, the CIPS purchasing managers' survey for services showed continuing boom. Its activity index stood at 62.1: anything above 50 indicates expansion. Even here, there were intial signs that sterling is affecting service exports. The index was down from 62.9 in June.

Smiths agrees £136m bid for rival Graseby

By Fraser Nelson

SMITHS INDUSTRIES, the aerospace to medical supplies company, has agreed a £136 million bid for Graseby, its smaller rival, in a deal designed to create the world's largest mobile drug pump company.

The two companies, each market leaders in take-home belts that automatically administer controlled doses of drugs, have agreed a 211p-a-share cash offer, a 41 per cent premium to Graseby's last closing price of 149½p.

Graseby makes three models of the pumps, which it is trying to sell in the US, and Smiths makes one version, which it is attempting to distribute in Graseby's dominant area of Europe and the Far East.

Smiths said it would also supply Graseby with the disposable plastic bags used to store the drugs, adding another million units a year to its sales.

The two companies also intend to mount a joint bid for the $400 million JCAD toxic chemicals detector contract due to be issued by the US armed forces next year after merging their defence divisions.

Graseby already has a $77 million chemical agent detector contract, but had little chance of winning the larger deal without the big US presence that Smiths will bring.

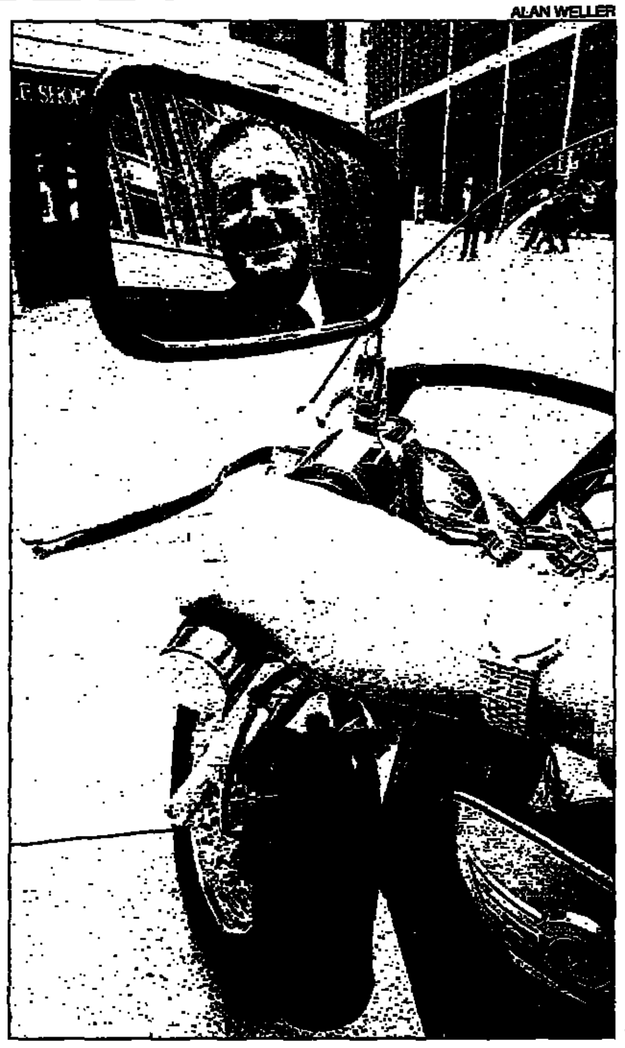
Smiths said: "We are a first-tier defence company in the US. The manufacturers are reluctant to give away contracts to small companies which they do not work with already. Graseby's merger with us will give it instant credibility and let it go a lot further."

Smiths said that the acquisition should enhance earnings in the first full year after it shuts Graseby's £2 million-a-year head office. Some analysts said the deal will probably lift earnings by the end of the current financial year.

Smiths shares rose 9p to 804½p. Graseby shares leapt 58p to a high of 207½p.

Tempus, page 26

ALAN WELLER



On the road: Paul Dixon, chief executive of Dixon Motors, which is buying Carnell Motor for £13.4 million and raising £17.6 million via a rights issue

Delay plea over gas market risk

By Christine Buckley
Industrial Correspondent

PRESSURE is growing for the gas regulator to delay the next phase of domestic competition amid growing industry unease and after a warning from Transco, BG's pipeline network, of inherent risk.

Transco has to implement competition by November 1 for two-and-a-half million homes in Scotland and north-east England, and made its fears known to Ofgas.

In a letter, Phil Nolan, managing director of Transco, said: "The solution we have offered to the industry is not without risk and, critically, relies on full industry support to be effective."

Customers could find it difficult to switch supplier and could receive incorrect bills.

Rivals to BG are also urging Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, to slow the process. Calortex, ScottishPower and Amerada Hess have called for a delay. But Ofgas said: "We believe that level of risk is manageable."

☐ Transco has outsourced its telecoms network to ICL in a £160 million deal.

Ease off the gas, page 27

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

BTR to pay $60m for Limitorque

BTR, the industrial group, is to buy Limitorque from American Manufacturing Corporation for $60 million (£37 million). BTR said Limitorque, which has annual sales of $76 million, will join BTR's Process Control division and become part of the valve business. BTR said: "There are good growth opportunities for this business as the demand for actuated valves is expected to continue to increase in the future as customers seek to reduce operating costs, raise productivity and increase safety."

Ian Strachan, BTR's chief executive, said: "The acquisition is the latest in a number of strategic purchases made to extend our product offering and geographic range in areas where we expect to see high growth."

Rentals slow Viacom

VIACOM, the entertainment company, said it lost $217 million in the second quarter, equal to 66 cents a share, hamstrung by a $323 million pre-tax charge in its poor-performing Blockbuster video rental business. Excluding this, the loss was about $14 million, or eight cents, compared with a profit of $26 million a year ago, or three cents a share. Viacom's revenues in the latest quarter rose to $3.03 billion from $2.79 billion.

Harwich port sold

STENA LINE yesterday revealed that it had sold the Harwich International port in Essex for £72 million to a group of institutions led by HSBC Private Equity. Stena said the sale means the company will be able to strengthen its financial position after last year's heavy loss. Harwich will continue to be managed by Michael Connellan, but as an independent company. It will focus on improving port services and developing its customer base.

Benfield makes £268,200

PENELOPE BENFIELD, the wife of James Benfield, a director of Marks & Spencer, has made the most of a surge in the company's share price in recent months by selling 45,000 shares in the company at a near-record high of 596p each, making a total of £268,200. Her husband is director of children's wear, home furnishings and direct mail. The total holding of the Benfield family now stands at 13,738 shares, the company said.

BBA buys brake firm

BBA, the engineering group, is to buy Becorit, the German brakes company, for £27.9 million in cash out of its existing resources. The deal takes BBA into the rail market and brings in technology to which it did not previously have access. BBA shares rose 9p to 357p. The deal is subject to adjustment based on actual net operating assets at completion. In 1996, Becorit made pre-tax profits of £4.8 million. Net assets to be acquired are valued at £4 million.

T&N adds £18m to fund

T&N, the vehicle components group fighting off claims for asbestos-related disease, yesterday raised £18 million by selling its Tenmat engineering materials operations to its management. T&N will put the proceeds into the fund set up to cope with asbestos claims. After the deal goes through the fund will stand at £66 million, against a target of £323 million set for 1999. T&N shares rose 1p to 142½p. In the year to December 31, Tenmat achieved pre-tax profits of £3.2 million.

TV transmission deal

BRITISH Digital Broadcasting, which is due to launch 15 digital television channels next year, has awarded a £200 million contract to transmit its services to Castle Transmission International, the company that bought the BBC's transmission business. Castle Transmission has a ten-year contract to broadcast the BBC's analogue TV services and its digital radio services. BDB is a joint venture between Granada and Carlton, the two largest ITV groups.

Greenalls hotel disposal

GREENALLS GROUP, the pub and hotel operator, has sold the 190-bedroom De Vere Hotel in Coventry to Britannia Hotels for about £6 million. The four-star hotel was one of four non-core hotels put up for sale through Knight Frank earlier this year with a combined price of about £25 million. A sale of the other three to a single buyer is thought to be imminent. Greenalls says the four do not fit the 20-strong De Vere group's profile of four-star hotels with leisure facilities.

Bakyrchik shifts to AIM

BAKYRCHIK GOLD, the mining company that is being forced to give up its full stock market listing, intends to switch to the Alternative Investment Market. Bakyrchik's move is necessary because it is surrendering control of the Kazakhstan gold mine that is its main asset as part of a financial rescue agreed with Indochina Goldfields, its largest shareholder. The company intends to issue details of the refinancing plans before the end of August.

Bowthorpe expansion

BOWTHORPE, the electronic equipment group, said it was in talks to buy an unnamed British telecoms and aerospace company for about £15 million. In a short Stock Exchange statement Bowthorpe said it signed a non-binding letter of intent for the acquisition that would fit within its network systems group. The group added that the transaction is subject to satisfactory due diligence. Its shares rose 1½p to 315p.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.31	2.13
Austria Sch	22.48	20.82
Belgium Fr	66.26	61.30
Canada $	2.375	2.187
Cyprus Cyp£	0.938	0.866
Denmark Kr	12.23	11.34
Finland Mkk	9.65	8.90
France Fr	10.77	10.00
Germany Dm	3.22	2.98
Greece Dr	503	484
Hong Kong $	13.40	12.20
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.19	1.10
Israel Shk	6.09	5.44
Italy Lira	3184	2927
Japan Yen	209.13	191.60
Malta	0.689	0.630
Netherlds Gld	3.630	3.335
New Zealand $	2.69	2.44
Norway Kr	13.21	12.27
Portugal Esc	321.53	299.50
S Africa Rd	8.29	7.33
Spain Pta	269.79	251.00
Sweden Kr	13.94	12.84
Switzerland Fr	2.65	2.43
Turkey Lira	274464	254586
USA $	1.735	1.592

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Windfall tax provision wipes out BAA profits

By Sarah Cunningham

THE windfall tax has almost wiped out first-quarter profits at BAA, the airports operator.

The company has set aside £102 million for the tax, which will be paid in two tranches in December this year and next year.

It initially estimated that the tax would cost it between £70 million and £100 million and said yesterday that the exact level still has to be agreed with the Inland Revenue.

It described the provision as enough to cover the "worst-case scenario". The one-off charge leaves BAA with just £3 million post-tax profit compared with £98 million the previous year.

Excluding the exceptional charge, pre-tax profit in the three months to June 30 was 4.5 per cent higher at £136 million.

The number of passengers through its airports, which include Heathrow, Gatwick, Edinburgh and Glasgow, was up 7.8 per cent to 26.5 million during the three months.

This figure, which was higher than expected, helped BAA's shares to add 20p to 580½p.

This quarter is the first to reflect the effects of the new regulatory formula on airport charges. The changes resulted in the charges at London airports being £2.5 million lower than they would have been before the change. The results also reflect the loss of revenue from airside cleaning and catering licences.

These factors were offset by a rise in retailing revenue from £150 million to £161 million.

Henlys sells motor division for £56m

By Our City Staff

HENLYS, the vehicle component and assembly group, is selling its motor division for £56.6 million as part of a plan to make acquisitions for its bus division.

The deal will leave Henlys with an estimated surplus of net cash of about £28 million, which the board intends to use on overseas acquisitions for the bus and coach division.

The motor division, which Henlys believes would require further investment, includes 32 dealerships covering most of the big car manufacturers. It is being sold to HMG, which has been formed for the deal by Legal and General Ventures.

The deal, because of its size, requires approval from Henlys shareholders. The shares rose 25p to 441p after the announcement. The purchaser will be allowed to use the Henlys name for motor vehicle distribution, in return for a royalty, but will not be allowed to use it as part of a company name.

The sale price includes the repayment of £5.6 million of debt and represents a premium of £6.6 million to net assets.

BT in talks over job cuts

BT meets union leaders today over plans to cut up to 5,000 jobs by next April. The meeting comes ahead of a strike next Tuesday by BT engineers in London over the use of contract workers.

The Communications Workers Union has complained about a lack of consultation over the reductions and also the increasing use of contractors for work previously done by BT staff.

BT said it had consulted the CWU over the cuts, which emerged last week.

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Hampel opportunity for harm

COMMENTARY

by our City Editor

Why should we be surprised that the Hampel committee has pedalled so softly on hard and fast rules for how companies should behave? After all, putting a bunch of industrialists in charge of policing how companies should be run is like asking the Arsenal manager to chair the disciplinary hearings into the behaviour of Ian Wright.

Is it any coincidence that Lord Simon of Highbury, an Arsenal fan himself, should sit on the Hampel committee? The report goes on about companies deciding what is appropriate and not being answerable to anyone but shareholders. Lord Simon decided it was appropriate not to put his BP shares in a blind trust until he found that, as a minister, he was actually answerable to public opinion. Yesterday he said he would be selling his BP shares — more that six months ahead of when he had previously thought it might be appropriate.

If the last five years of debating the thorny issue of corporate governance has told us anything, it is that the managements of companies cannot be allowed to police themselves. It is not in their interests to have strong non-executive directors, it is not in their interest to have demanding performance criteria and it is not in the interests of a domineering chairman and chief executive to split the roles. Only by telling managers how to behave and chastising them when they fail to live up to those standards can they be made to follow the principles of "best practice" set out in Cadbury and Greenbury. But this is not how Sir Ronnie Hampel and his colleagues see it. Their two main themes are that hard and fast rules are not the way forward and that the only duties companies have is to their shareholders.

The first has its merits: nobody thinks the principle of ticking boxes is the way to regulate corporate governance. A company saying: "Look we've split the roles, we have a majority of non-executives on the board, we rotate directors every three years, we are perfect" may be anything but. There may be good reasons to break any of the guidelines. But there must be guidelines. And companies have to explain why they breach those guidelines rather than say: "It is appropriate for us to do things they way we want to do them."

Which neatly leads into the second issue. Hampel and Co say that directors of companies only have duties to their shareholders. So much for Tony Blair's stakeholder society. But this legalistic definition of directors' responsibilities ignores the fact that institutional shareholders were not particularly good at policing companies before they had the guidelines in Cadbury and Greenbury.

Unless Sir Ronald is willing to harden his stance towards prescribing what companies should and should not do, the result of this committee's work will be to put back the debate on corporate governance. Then Government might feel inclined *to prescribe on the subject.*

NatWest in need of a break

Having delivered their unexciting figures, the best thing that Lord Alexander and Derek Wanless can now do is head off on their holidays, making sure to leave the mobile telephones behind. While there is always the possibility of a chance poolside encounter with a fellow financial services big wig, the chances are that this way, they might avoid embarking on any more ill-fated courtships.

The lurch from Abbey National to Prudential as a potential partner has damaged NatWest's credibility rather more than the discovery of a loss, now totting up to £85 million, in NatWest Markets.

The bank is not a basket case and there were some bright spots in its half-year figures. But it has given *the impression of having* lost its way. Investor confidence in the top team has been severely dented and it will not be easy to rebuild. Any dalliance with another suitor would further damage an image bordering on the carelessly promiscuous.

Yesterday Lord Alexander and Mr Wanless indicated that they intended to avoid any more dangerous liaisons, a stance which was as much responsible for the tumble in the share price as the profit news. Speculators would have liked to see a corporate deal but a hostile takeover of the bank is hardly likely. With accounting rules indicating that goodwill alone would add £7 billion to the price, a bidder would have to believe that NatWest was worth around £18 billion.

But if it is eventually to approach a new partner from a position of strength, there are extensive problems that NatWest must address. It has already *moved to sort out the structure of* NatWest Markets, although whether the group has a long-term future in investment banking remains unclear. Yet, although the profits from NatWest UK ostensibly more than doubled, helped by an absence of last year's restructuring costs, in some of its traditional markets, the bank appears to be losing market share. And for Coutts to lose £13 million to a single client is more than unfortunate.

What the bank needs now is a period of calm unblemished by such costly mishaps. And another bank to take on the role of sector whipping boy. It was not so long ago that Midland was seen as the dog of the clearing bankers. Then Barclays found itself being criticised for its investment in BZW. Martin Taylor cleverly deflected that criticism, but that does not mean that BZW's problems have vanished.

Mrs B overplays her hand

The international high rollers who make up the clientele of London's top casinos may be cheered to know that the President of the Board of Trade has their best interests at heart but the City has reason to be perturbed by her decision to veto London Clubs' bid for Capital Corporation.

Mrs Beckett could claim that she was merely following the Monopolies Commission advice, but she has it in her powers to choose not to follow that advice and would have been well advised to do so. The two companies are players in one of the truly global markets, so their share of London casino business is irrelevant. Customers jet in from far flung spots, often opting *to chance their luck in private* rooms where the scale of their wagers will remain a secret known to only a handful of people. There have surely been occasions when Middle Eastern princelings or Antipodean polo stars have little idea of which country they are in as they risk fortunes on the spin of a wheel.

Gamblers anonymous may believe these poor souls are in need of protection, but it is hardly up to Mrs Beckett to provide it.

But Mrs B, too, is betraying early signs of addiction. Without help, her interventionist tendencies could become a real problem. She was persuaded not to persist with her aim of insisting that all mergers should have to be justified on grounds of public interest, but she does appear to cling to the view that takeovers are distasteful.

Paired

GEORGE SIMPSON must be jolly glad to have found a high powered finance director to help him out at GEC. After all, having taken on the role of working peer to help out the Government, Mr Simpson will have to fit in running Britain's industrial giant with the Lords voting timetable. At least, for the time being, he and his chairman can share a car to Westminster, even if they go into opposite lobbies to cast their votes.

Controversy deepens over syndicate

By Gavin Lumsden

CONTROVERSY at Lloyd's of London over the loss-making Syndicate 657 deepened yesterday as a second investment trust announced impaired results. Meanwhile, Archer, the managing agency behind the syndicate, hit back at critics.

Benfield & Rea Investment Trust, the corporate vehicle set up by the late Matthew Harding, said the performance of HCG, which it acquired for £79 million last September, had been held back by a £2.5 million investment in the syndicate. Otherwise, the trust had increased net asset value per share by 20 per cent.

Underwritten by David Lowe, now managing director of Thor Underwriting Agencies, the Syndicate 657 lost millions from 1993 to 1995 in the professional indemnity market. These losses are the subject of an inquiry by Lloyd's regulatory division after a complaint on Monday by New London Capital, another investment trust which has lost £6.5 million, that the syndicate's account for 1993 had not been closed properly. But John Coldman, BRIT chairman, yesterday claimed the account remained open. One analyst said Archer would have to address the issue of negligence. Investors who had bought in 1994 had *been mis-sold, he said.*

In a statement to *The Times*, Stephen Wenman, chief executive of the Archer Group, the managing agent behind the syndicate, hit back at NLC.

He said: "David Lowe's underwriting losses over the years have been unfortunate and well publicised." He said it was solely NLC's decision to invest heavily in the syndicate and rejected any possibility of compensation for the trust. A goodwill gesture had been made to all names, which NLC had rejected, he said.

Thor denied Mr Lowe had a record of losses at the syndicate or Blackmore Agency and Excess Insurance, where he previously worked.

Beazley Group, one of four investors behind Thor, has pulled its support.

Raid raises prospect of Jardine bid

By Jon Ashworth

LI KA-SHING, the Hong Kong property tycoon, has covertly swooped on Jardine Matheson Holdings and one of its main subsidiaries, raising the prospect of a takeover bid for the trading group.

Hutchison Whampoa Holdings and Cheung Kong (Holdings), companies controlled by Mr Li, bought a combined 3.03 per cent stake in Jardine Matheson on August 1, according to filings to the Stock Exchange of Singapore. On the same day, the companies took a 3.06 per cent stake in Hongkong Land, the Jardine subsidiary with extensive holdings in the former British colony.

Mr Li tried to buy Hongkong Land in 1988. Jardine group shares have languished since secondary trading was moved from Hong Kong to Singapore two years ago, and are seen as cheap. The group is trading at an estimated 15 per cent discount to net asset value.

Analysts said a bid was possible, but the move might just be part of a trading play.

Hedging avoids loss at Ashanti

By Paul Durman

SUCCESSFUL hedging has enabled Ashanti Goldfields, the Ghanaian mining company in which Lonrho holds a 33 per cent stake, to limit damage from a weak gold price.

Ashanti yesterday reported a fall in first-half pre-tax profits from $39 million (£23.9 million) to $24.1 million, with the second-quarter contribution tumbling from $13.5 million to $7.9 million. However, the company would have made a loss without the $60.5 million earned in the half from forward sales of gold and other hedging techniques.

It achieved an average gold selling price of $450 an ounce, more than $100 above the average spot price this year.

Production problems left output from Obusai, the company's main mine, slightly short of target at 417,000 ounces, but Ashanti said it expects to meet this year's overall target of 1.1 million ounces.

Eighty per cent of next year's output is hedged, at $428 an ounce.

Tempus, page 26

Willis Corroon and Abbey launch adviser

WILLIS CORROON, the insurance broker, and Abbey National are joining forces to create the UK's second-largest independent financial adviser (Gavin Lumsden writes).

Abbey National Independent Financial Advisers (ANIFA) and Willis Corroon Financial Planning will merge by the end of the year to form Willis National, which will start with about 200 consultants. Both sides said that there will be no job losses because the businesses are complementary. ANIFA has focused on advising private investors, and WCFP has aimed solely at the corporate market.

Willis Corroon, which will hold 51 per cent of the new venture, *announced half-year* pre-tax profits of £60.2 million, down by £8 million, blaming the strong pound and tough competition in North America. Earnings per share fell from 10.7p to 8.6p after a decision to liquidate Sovereign, the underwriting subsidiary, raised the tax charge by £2.7 million. A 1.65p third interim dividend is due on October 1.

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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Focus on US roadshow for Unilever strategy

UNILEVER was busily wooing American investors in New York last night, hoping to attract fresh support for the shares which have been reaching new highs on the back of recent trading news.

The Anglo-Dutch food and household products group finished the day 1p lighter at £18.37½, just below its all-time high. Brokers say the company is likely to have a positive message for American institutions at the presentation, arranged by Goldman Sachs. If that is the case, then the shares could well go better again in London this morning.

The Americans will no doubt want to know what Unilever intends to do with the £5 billion raised from the sale of its speciality chemicals business to **ICI**, up 8p at £10.28, earlier this summer.

Some City speculators are suggesting it may bid for **Reckitt & Colman**, which includes Disprin and Lemsip. Some of the recent takeover froth in Reckitt boiled over yesterday as the price touched 971½p, before settling 4p lower at 981½p. Part of the fall is said to reflect a decision by SBC Warburg, the broker, to reduce its recommendation for the shares from "buy" to "neutral".

The rest of the equity market began nudging towards its all-time high as investors continued to support selective blue chips. The FTSE 100 index shrugged off the effects of an opening fall on Wall Street to close at its best of the day with a rise of 64.9 at 4,960.6. That compares with the closing high of 4,964.2 reached on July 16. Helped by a sizeable program trade, total turnover reached 945 million shares.

Leading the market higher was **BP**, up 39½p at 861½p, after a bumper set of results that exceeded market expectations. The group also wants shareholder permission to buy back its own shares.

Other oils went better. **Burmah Castrol** rose 24p to £10.67½, and **Shell** 13½p to 458p. Attempts to repair some of the damage created this year at **NatWest Group** fell on deaf ears, with the price dropping 35p to 835p. Despite a strong surge in pre-tax profits and the promise of increased shareholder value, brokers were unimpressed. The 10 per cent rise in the dividend lagged behind payouts in the past few days from rivals **HSBC**, 13p better at £22.51, and **Lloyds TSB**, 28½p dearer at 758½p. The group's underlying performance was said to static and a question-mark remains over the management's ability to put things right.

Elsewhere in the banking sector, selective support lifted **Abbey National** 19p to 853½p, **Royal Bank of Scotland** 9½p to 650½p, and **Bank of Scotland** 11½p to 441½p.

Cadbury Schweppes rose 10½p to 595½p ahead of half-year figures due out later today. American investors have been big buyers of the stock in recent months, having noticed the lower rating compared with that of Unilever and other food companies. Lord Harris of Peckham has dug into his deep pockets and forked out £780,000 with the purchase of 15,000 shares at 520p in **Carpetright**. It takes his total holding up to 12.25 million shares, or 15.4 per cent. The shares responded with a rise of 16p to 536½p.

Former high-flyer **Jarvis** fell another 4p to 232p and now stands way below its peak of 314½p earlier this year.

A near 60 per cent jump in first-half profits to £16.1 million from **Mayflower** was rewarded with a rise of 3½p to 158p. The group, headed by John Simpson, chief executive, makes parts for a range of cars. It said the strong pound had only a minimal impact on results despite earning around 40 per cent of operating profits in the US. The group has also begun working for British Aerospace on the Nimrod and Eurofighter projects.

A profits warning left **Chesterton International** nursing a fall of 23½p at 33½p. The property consultant says full-year profits will fall substantially below expectations. Trading in the final quarter had been disappointing and there was little likelihood of the final dividend being paid.

ABI Leisure was also left nursing a loss of 18p at 60p after saying that the strong pound would make a dent in the current year. The caravan manufacturer said profits would come in below expectations of £5.4 million.

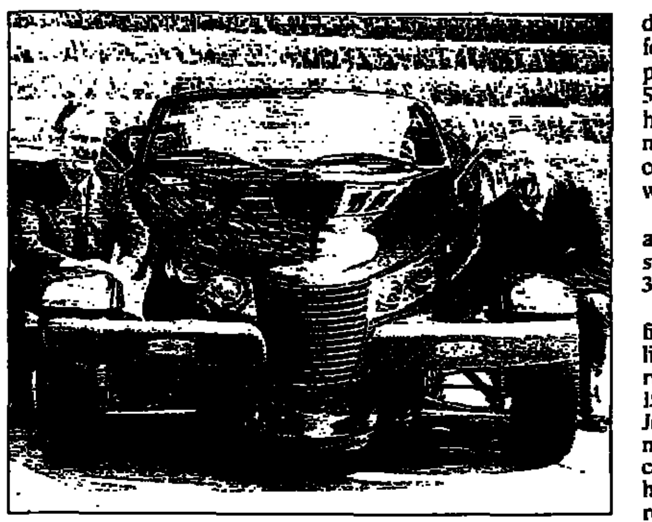
Britton Group, which rocked the City with a profits warning last month, perked up with a rise of 3p to 60p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Brokers reported a sell-off of longer dated issues around lunchtime, reflecting weakness among other European bond markets. Once again investors were reluctant to commit themselves ahead of today's meeting of the Bank of England independent economic policy committee.

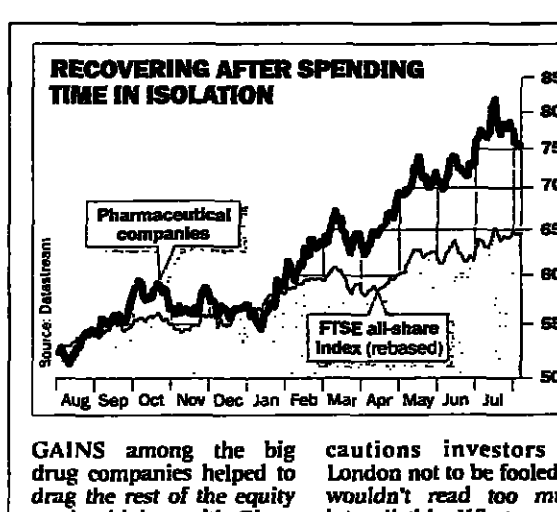
In futures, the September series of the long gilt fell £⅜ to £114$\frac{9}{32}$ as the total number of contracts completed rose to 70,000.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 finished £$\frac{17}{32}$ lower at at £109$\frac{13}{16}$, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was just a tick off at £102$\frac{15}{32}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Technology shares were still in favour while blue chips languished, dogged by declines in the bond market. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 0.96 ahead at 8,197.52.



David Donnelly, finance director, left, and John Simpson, of Mayflower, 3½p higher on strong first-half results



GAINS among the big drug companies helped to drag the rest of the equity market higher, with Glaxo Wellcome rising 24½p to £13.25½, SmithKline Beecham 19½p to £11.87, and Zeneca 39p to £20.41½.

It was suggested that overnight demand for the shares in New York, where they are traded in the form of American depository receipts (ADRs), was responsible for the surge of activity in London. Many US fund managers take the view that British drug companies are cheap.

But Frazer Hall, of BZW, cautions investors in London not to be fooled. "I wouldn't read too much into all this. What we are seeing are thin volumes. US drug stocks closed mixed and Zeneca even ended lower in the ADRs."

He says the big drugs companies are enjoying a rally after seeing investors switch in the past few weeks into cyclical stocks such as engineering and manufacturers that have been hurt by the strong pound. He added: "Fundamentally, we remain bullish of the issues driving the drugs companies"

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 8197.52 (-0.93)
S&P Composite 952.61 (+2.31)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 19514.45 (-153.62)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 16371.52 (+111.93)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 979.59 (+0.24)

Sydney:
AO 2707.60 (+1.60)

Frankfurt:
DAX 4302.68 (+5.74)

Singapore:
Straits 1951.71 (-11.89)

Brussels:
General 13981.81 (-82.38)

Paris:
CAC-40 2984.10 (-8.31)

Zurich:
SKA Gen n/a

London:
FT 30 3117.0 (+35.5)
FTSE 100 4960.6 (+64.9)
FTSE 250 4498.6 (+13.6)
FTSE 350 2373.4 (+26.6)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 2743.94 (-3.98)
FTSE All-Share 2314.74 (+24.34)
FTSE Non Financials 2312.44 (+25.18)
FTSE Fixed Interest 125.52 (-0.38)
FTSE Govt Secs 96.75 (-0.26)
Bargains 48546
SEAQ Volume 945.2m
US$ 1.6268 (-0.0038)
German Mark 3.0564 (+0.0170)
Exchange Index 105.7 (+0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.5417
£:SDR 1.2095
RPI 157.5 Jun (2.9%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX 156.7 Jun (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Billiton	224	+ ½
Bristol & West Prf	107¼	− ½
Cammell Laird	117½	...
Delcam	269	...
EMI B	115	...
Fairplace Cons	3¼	...
GR Holdings	65	...
Galen Holdings	195	− 2½
Gremlin Group	117½	...
Helicon Pubsig	105½	...
Hitachi Credit (UK)	148½	...
Ionica Group	383½	− 2
Kingfisher Leisure	175½	...
Metroline	215	− 1½
Reabourne Merlin	108½	...
SBS Group	105½	...
Ted Baker	140	...
Thorn B	20½	...
Viglen Tech	65	+ ½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Active Img n/p (10)	1	...
Fortune Oil n/p (11)	3	...
Golden Land n/p (21)	2½	...
Logica n/p (605)	155	− 2½
Lon Brid Sftw Cv n/p	14	+ 1½
Tea Plant n/p (120)	1½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Jardine Math 487p (+56¼p)
Real Time 285p (+25p)
Cortecs 163½p (+12p)
Dorling Kind 242½p (+14p)
Henlys 441p (+25p)
Booker 312½p (+14p)
Britannic 819p (+36½p)
Reuters 663p (+28p)
De La Rue 386½p (+16p)
Royal & Sun Al 510½p (+18p)

FALLS:
ABI Leis 60p (-18p)
Capital Corp 165p (-19p)
Nat West 835p (-35p)
London Clubs 386½p (-18p)
Celltech 265p (-10p)
Danka Bs Sys 736½p (-21p)
Blacks Leis 423½p (-10p)
Kingfisher 709p (-12p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

BP gushes out its cash

MUCH TO the delight of Lord Simon's favourite charities, shares in his former company powered on to a new record yesterday — maximising their windfall from his generous settlement of the political row over his £2 million holding in BP. The oil group deserved to continue the strong record that Lord Simon began because of the skill it demonstrated in overcoming several factors that held back the business. Output has been increased more than could be expected and costs have been brought down speedily.

This is reflected in BP's return on capital, which stands head and shoulders above its competitors at 18 per cent, up from 14.5 per cent in 1996. Shell, for example, only makes 12.5 per cent. While nothing can protect BP from a general market downturn, the company seems better prepared than the rest.

An element of luck with oil prices has helped. However, the threat from Iraqi oil means that may not last. If Saddam can increase output quotas then prices will begin to fall very quickly.

In the meantime, BP will offer support to its share price through a series of buybacks, starting with a £330 million scheme to expand its employee share ownership plan. More significantly, it will follow this next year with buybacks that could total several billion pounds. Buying back 10 per cent at today's prices would cost around £4.5 billion.

In the current environment, it is difficult to see a better use for BP's cash — especially as it would have little difficulty in financing any acquisition opportunities that do arise. BP remains solidly placed to offer investors a good return.

Smiths Inds

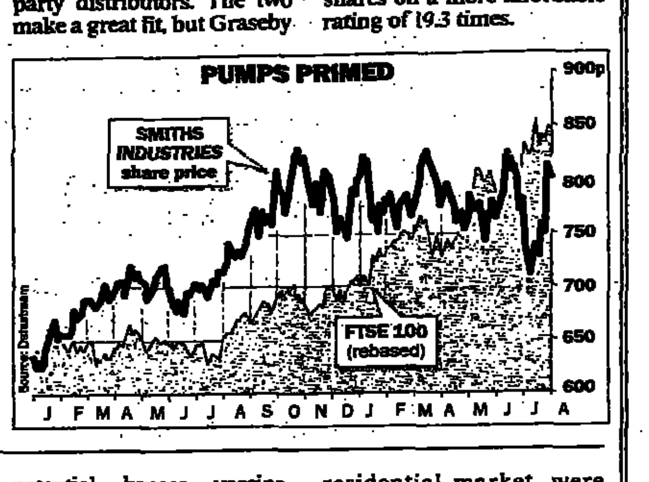
SMITHS INDUSTRIES' acquisition of Graseby seems one of those deals that was screaming out to be done, and its completion will deliver instant rewards.

The 211p price is one Graseby's shareholders have never seen in the company's 16 years on the market. It represents 17.4 times this year's earnings, an excellent exit given Graseby's chequered past.

Graseby has often seemed a well-managed company, but its niche businesses have regularly proved themselves unable to withstand the pressure from cuts in health and defence spending, and delays in environmental legislation. Smiths should be able to provide the muscle to make these businesses work, to justify the price. Smiths wrings 24 per cent margins out of its own medical business, compared with the 16 per cent that Graseby achieves.

Smiths will also gain by eliminating Graseby's £2 million of head office costs, by bolstering its limited presence in the US and by tackling its reliance on third-party distributors. The two make a great fit, but Graseby is small fry for Smiths and concerns about the soaring pound keep its shares within the 830p glass ceiling they have bounced back from five times in the past 12 months already.

Smiths remains a class act. The damage caused by the strong pound has put the shares on a more affordable rating of 19.3 times.



Cantab

THE ebb tide that has followed this year's biotech disappointments is exposing some interesting share price anomalies. One of the most glaring is at Cantab Pharmaceuticals. Since March, when Glaxo Wellcome agreed to buy a small stake for 965p a share, Cantab's shares have fallen back to 687½p, having briefly flirted with £11.

Yet the company has suffered no setbacks and scores well on an investor checklist. It has a good scientific reputation, three technology platforms with numerous potential applications and first rate industry partners in Glaxo Wellcome, SmithKline Beecham and Pfizer, which have backed their interest with payments totalling £20.5 million. Cantab even reported a first-half "one-time" profit of £2 million yesterday — though this was almost wholly due to the £5 million received from Glaxo Wellcome for rights to a potential herpes vaccine. Both this and Cantab's other lead project, a genital warts vaccine now under development with SmithKline Beecham, are due to enter large phase 2 trials next year.

Cantab has even struck a remarkable deal whereby Trinity College will put up £1.5 million, a third of the total cost of new laboratories, to persuade the company to stay on the Cambridge Science Park. One should never ignore the risks of such early stage companies, but Cantab currently looks good value.

Chesterton

ALMOST a year since Chesterton found a £1.4 million black hole in its accounts, and five months since one-off reorganisation costs of £2.2 million, the property firm is still in a mess. The only fresh element in yesterday's warning was disappointing final-quarter trading — this at a time when house sales in London, Chesterton's main residential market, were booming. A full-year loss and further write-downs now look inevitable. No wonder the shares collapsed again to 33½p, down a further 23½p. They are now worth barely a quarter of last year's peak.

The culprit, it seems, is Chesterton's commercial agency, which has missed its targets. The sector has its problems, partly stemming from the uncertainties caused by the election and the Budget. But many other firms are doing perfectly well.

With Michael Holmes, the new broom chief executive, making some sensible changes, the shares are being seen by some analysts as a recovery play. However, those keen to invest in the sector need look no further than Savills for a better run, more focussed, higher margin business, trading on not much more than seven times prospective earnings. Avoid Chesterton.

EDITED BY PAUL DURMAN

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Sep	1001-999	Dec	1119-1111
Dec	1033-1032	Mar	1132-1126
Mar	1055-1054	May	1148-1140
May	1073-1070	Jul	1160-1150
Jul	1088-1086		
Sep	1105-1101		Volume: 2792

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Sep	1657-1656	May	1565 SLR
Nov	1655 SLR	Jul	unq
Jan	1636 SLR	Sep	....
Mar	1596 BID		Volume: 3360

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	322.0-20.3
Spot: 343.6		Aug	319.2-17.3
Oct	325.0-24.8	Oct	314.0-09.8
Dec	322.0-21.8	Dec	314.0-09.0
Mar	323.0-22.8		Volume: 1429

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on August 4

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	77.63	109.70	98.20
(+/-)	-4.78	+2.42	-0.13
Eng/Wales:	77.75	109.57	97.60
(+/-)	-4.75	+2.29	-0.40
(%)	+3.0	+1.0	-10.0
Scotland:	75.46	110.43	103.21
(+/-)	-5.55	+3.20	+1.43
(%)	-14.0	-20.0	+11.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	19.55	+0.30
Brent 15 day (Sep)	19.45	+0.45
Brent 15 day (Oct)	19.50	+0.50
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	20.75	+0.50
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	20.85	+0.60

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	228 (+1)	232 (+3)
Gasoil EEC	177 (+4)	179 (+5)
3.5 Fuel Oil	88 (+4)	90 (+4)
Naphtha	192 (+1)	194 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Aug	176.00-76.25	Nov	180.75 SLR
Sep	177.50 SLR	Dec	181.00 BID
Oct	179.00-79.25		Vol: 15368

BRENT (6.00pm)

Sep	19.40-19.43	Dec	19.53-19.60
Oct	19.44-19.46	Jan	19.50 BID
Nov	19.50 BID		Vol. 32222

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Sep	81.75	Sep	77.25
Nov	84.50	Nov	79.55
Jan	86.50	Jan	81.55
Mar	88.50	Mar	83.55
May	90.50	May	84.75
Volume: 287		Volume: 87	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	62.0
Mar	-	103.0
Apr	132.0	119.0
		Volume: 292

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Aug 62.25-62.75

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Aug 97	1312	1299	1300
Sep 97	1375	1370	1372
Oct 97	1480	1473	1475
Jan 97	1495	1495	1495
Vol: 190 lots		Open Interest: 3049	

Index 1280 -3

(Official) (Volume prev day)	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2306.0-2307.0	3mth: 2277.0-2278.0	Vol: 997970
Lead ($/tonne)	610.00-611.00	623.00-624.00	189425
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1591.5-1592.0	1496.0-1497.0	746150
Tin ($/tonne)	5520.0-5525.0	5560.0-5565.0	25110
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1723.0-1723.5	1717.0-1718.0	2576925
Nickel ($/tonne)	7075.0-7076.0	7185.0-7190.0	109554

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Alld Dom	420	34	43	48	7	17½	21½
(*441½)	460	13½	22	28½	24	36½	42½
ASDA	140	9½	14	16½	4½	6½	8
(*140)	160	2	5½	8	17	19	19½
Boots	750	45½	67½	—	22½	38	—
(*770½)	800	25½	46½	58½	45½	59½	61½
Br Airways	600	54	71½	82½	14½	23	27½
(*630½)	650	27½	45½	57	36½	45½	51
BP	850	43	64	75	23	39	43½
(*862)	900	22	39	51	50½	65	69½
Br Steel	160	12½	16½	19½	5	9½	9½
(*160)	180	4	8	10½	16	20½	20½
C & W	550	56½	72	84½	12	30½	25½
(*587)	600	27½	44½	58	33	42½	47½
CU	650	59½	84	94	25	39	49
(*683½)	700	34	59½	69½	49	62½	73½
ICI	1000	58½	89½	101	33½	49	61½
(*1027½)	1050	34	62	77½	60	73½	86
Land Sec	900	69½	79	95	12½	22	25½
(*937½)	950	31	50	66	31½	43	47
M & S	550	54	64½	77½	8½	15½	18
(*597½)	600	23½	35½	48	26½	34½	39
Nat West	800	68	107½	120	37	59½	74½
(*834½)	850	43½	83½	95	61	85	99
Safeway plc	390	20	30½	38½	11½	21	34½
(*393)	420	7½	17	25	31	38	41
Sainsbury	420	32	42	51	10½	16	20
(*436½)	460	12	23	31	30½	36½	40
Shell	450	29	41½	—	17	25½	—
(*458½)	500	11	21	29½	48	54	59½
Smkl Bch	1150	85½	123½	151	34	56	70
(*1186)	1200	59½	97½	125	57	79½	93
Storehse	310	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	2000	131½	163½	205	54½	97½	104½
(*2041½)	2100	86	132½	152½	104½	137	153½
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
BAT Ind	500	33	51	58	20½	36	44½
(*509)	550	15	30½	37	58½	67	74
Vodafone	300	20	29½	34	10	17	19½
(*307½)	330	7½	15	20½	27½	37½	36
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Grnd Met	550	44½	61½	75½	1	10½	21½
(*592)	600	10½	32	45½	16½	30	42½
Ladbroke	240	15	23½	29	1	8	9½
(*252½)	260	4	13½	19½	9½	17½	19½
Utd Bisc	200	9	16	21½	1½	7	10
(*207)	220	0½	7	12½	13½	19½	21

August 5, 1997 Tot: 33325 Call: 20101 Put: 13224 FTSE Call: 7906 Put: 2263
*Underlying security price.

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
BAA	550	45	58½	67	8	15	19½
(*590)	600	16½	31	39	30	37½	41
Thames W	750	58½	72	86	16	25½	30½
(*784½)	800	30	45½	58½	36½	48½	53½
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
BTR	190	9½	16½	22½	2½	10½	12½
(*198½)	200	1½	9½	14	14½	22½	23
Br Aero	1350	30	77	109½	19	50½	62
(*1360½)	1400	9	52	82½	47	77	80½
Br Telcm	390	27½	37	42½	7½	19	22½
(*410½)	420	6½	23	28½	24	35	38
Cadbury	550	49	62	76	0½	10½	15½
(*596½)	600	14½	32	46½	13	29½	35½
Guinness	550	35	53	63½	1½	15	18½
(*585)	600	6	24½	35	20½	35½	41
GEC	360	8	23	29½	6	14	18
(*362½)	390	0½	10½	17½	27½	31	34½
Hanson	300	11½	22	30½	3	13	16½
(*309)	330	1	9	17	22½	30½	33½
LASMO	280	7½	20	26½	6	12	15½
(*282)	300	1½	12	17½	19	23	26½
LucasVarity	190	15	21½	26	0½	5	6½
(*194)	200	2½	10½	15½	8	13½	15½
Pilkington	130	9	—	—	1	—	—
(*137½)	140	3	—	—	5	—	—
Prudential	600	25½	50½	70½	13	33½	41½
(*610)	650	6½	29	48	44½	62	69½
Redland	290	13	24	31½	2	10½	14
[illegible]	300	3½	14	22	13	21½	24
R-Royce	220	18	26½	32	1	8	10½
(*236½)	240	4½	15	21	7½	16	19½
Tesco	420	18½	31	44	4	14	19½
(*439)	460	2	17	26	27½	36	41
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4957)

	4850	4900	4950	5000	5050	5100
Calls						
Aug	115	70½	51½	31	16½	8
Sep	190	147½	119½	96	75	56½
Oct	222½	193	164	136½	116½	95
Nov	267½	237	206½	181	159	137½
Dec	—	272½	—	215½	—	169
Puts						
Aug	28	45½	68½	100	138½	182½
Sep	80	101	127½	152	181½	215½
Oct	106	129½	151½	179	208½	239
Nov	139	159	179½	205½	234	263½
Dec	—	165½	—	212½	—	271

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Abby Nat	850	49	79½	91½	48	64	75
(*852)	900	28½	57½	69½	78½	92½	103½
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1250	85	136½	147½	51	83	94
(*1280)	1300	60½	111½	124	76	108	117½
Natl Pwr	500	54	65½	72½	8½	16½	17½
(*540)	550	25½	36½	43½	25½	36	38
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Glaxo Well	1300	72	113½	136	44½	66	79
(*1327½)	1350	48½	91	109	70	90	103
HSBC	2200	131½	211½	235	79	122½	149
(*2240½)	2300	83	158½	203	131	171	196
Reuter	650	35	59	67	27½	36½	43
(*659)	700	14	33½	43½	52½	63	69½
Royal & Sun	500	35	48½	56	25½	32½	39
(*509½)	550	14½	27½	34	52½	61	67
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Blue Circ	390	13½	26	34½	4	14½	18½
(*398)	420	1½	13	20½	22½	31½	35
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Kingfshr	700	21	47	61	11	31½	37
(*708½)	750	4	27½	39	43½	57	62½
	Series	Jan			Jun		
Br Gas	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	260	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Series	Sep	Dec	Mar	Sep	Dec	Mar
Dixons	550	58	75	97	7½	16½	21½
(*599½)	600	24½	48½	58	24½	35½	40
EMI Group	548	40	60	72½	12	23	28½
(*571½)	575	25	46½	59	23½	35½	41
Tarmac	110	9½	12½	15½	2	4½	6
(*116)	120	4½	7½	11	6½	10	11½
Hillsdwn	140	39½	—	—	0	—	—
(*159)	160	6½	—	—	5	—	—
Lonrho	120	10	13½	16½	3	4½	7½
(*124½)	130	5	9½	12	8	10	12½
Sears	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	300	14	22	26½	6½	12	16
(*313)	330	2½	9	13	27	29½	33
Lloyds TSB	750	41	73	90½	36½	56	62½
(*756½)	800	21½	51	68	66½	83	90
Scot Pwr	420	17½	28½	32	16	24½	28½
(*428)	460	5	14½	17½	46	50	53
Unilever	1800	77½	137½	179½	28	65½	69½
(*1838½)	1900	30½	87	126½	80	115	117½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Sep 97	114-27	114-27	114-05	114-09	70525
Previous open interest 188429	Dec 97	114-12	114-13	114-00	113-29	348
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Sep 97	102.29	102.32	101.58	101.71	229905
Previous open interest 279609	Dec 97	101.45	101.45	100.80	100.87	8456
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Sep 97	135.90	136.27	134.95	135.15	77801
Previous open interest 108583	Dec 97	107.40	107.40	107.32	107.44	628
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 97	126.50	126.54	126.36	126.41	1837
	Dec 97	125.90	125.91	125.78	125.80514	
Three Mth Sterling	Sep 97	92.68	92.70	92.68	92.69	21439
	Dec 97	92.49	92.53	92.49	92.50	18547
Previous open interest 655584	Mar 98	92.48	92.52	92.48	92.49	13892
Three Mth Euromark	Sep 97	96.64	96.65	96.58	96.60	40193
Previous open interest 1627863	Dec 97	96.44	96.46	96.37	96.40	63020
Three Mth Eurolira	Sep 97	93.24	93.26	93.18	93.20	19091
Previous open interest 373016	Dec 97	93.56	93.59	93.48	93.52	19562
Three Mth Euroyen	Dec 97	99.30	99.30	99.30	99.30	400
	Mar 98				99.17	0
Three Mth Euroswiss	Sep 97	98.46	98.46	98.35	98.37	12199
Previous open interest 139607	Dec 97	98.26	98.28	98.14	98.15	10677
Three Mth ECU	Sep 97	95.58	95.59	95.51	95.54	2339
Previous open interest 39587	Dec 97	95.54	95.56	95.45	95.50	1550
FTSE 100	Sep 97	4933.0	4976.0	4923.0	4949.0	8400
Previous open interest 79588	Dec 97	5000.0	5024.0	5000.0	5013.0	627

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¾ Low 6 Week fixed: 6¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¾ : 3 mth 6¾ . Sell: 2 mth 6¾ : 3 mth: 6¾ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open 6¾, close 6 .

Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.54	n/a	5.60	5.71	5.92
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $323.20-323.50 Close: $319.30-319.80 High: $325.10-323.60
Low: $318.60-319.10 AM: $323.35 PM: $321.10

Krugerrand: $319.00-321.00 (£196.25-198.25)

Platinum: $457.00 (£280.70) Silver: $4.40 (£2.705) Palladium: $239.00 (£146.80)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for August 5	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.4304-3.4490	3.4421-3.4445	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	62.870-63.260	63.095-63.187	21-16pr	58-51pr
Copenhagen	11.605-11.673	11.650-11.660	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dublin	1.1254-1.1402	1.1332-1.1356	0.21-0.16pr	0.58-0.51pr
Frankfurt	3.0457-3.0632	3.0563-3.0591	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	308.16-309.95	308.83-309.13	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madrid	257.26-258.89	258.40-258.57	40-30pr	120-101pr
Milan	2982.5-2996.8	2988.7-2992.5	11pr-5ds	29-6pr
Montreal	2.2446-2.2506	2.2461-2.2579	0.73-0.68pr	1.35-1.27pr
New York	1.6268-1.6308	1.6270-1.6277	0.21-0.19pr	0.605-0.575pr
Oslo	12.578-12.635	12.607-12.616	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	10.273-10.341	10.318-10.326	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	13.127-13.213	13.127-13.145	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	192.58-194.17	193.74-193.95	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	21.429-21.537	21.505-21.526	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	2.4906-2.5009	2.4942-2.4969	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3498-1.3508
Austria	13.22-13.23
Belgium (Com)	38.80-38.84
Canada	1.3810-1.3815
Denmark	7.1630-7.1650
France	6.3452-6.3472
Germany	1.8792-1.8797
Hong Kong	7.7400-7.7410
Ireland	1.4299-1.4349
Italy	1836.70-1837.20
Japan	119.07-119.12
Malaysia	2.6430-2.6450
Netherlands	2.1163-2.1173
Norway	7.7507-7.7585
Portugal	190.20-190.30
Singapore	1.4710-1.4720
Spain	158.85-158.88
Sweden	8.0704-8.0779
Switzerland	1.5345-1.5350

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6270-1.6297
Australia dollar	2.1967-2.1995
Bahrain dinar	0.6085-0.6205
Brazil real*	1.7620-1.7664
China yuan	13.362-13.662
Cyprus pound	0.8830-0.8920
Finland markka	9.0175-9.1335
Greece drachma	471.0-478.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.5969-12.6062
India rupee	57.74-58.70
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4925-0.5025
Malaysia ringgit	4.2999-4.3074
New Zealand dollar	2.5194-2.5229
Pakistan rupee	65.55 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8725-5.9965
Singapore dollar	2.3945-2.3976
S Africa rand (com)	7.5390-7.6410
U A E dirham	5.9250-6.0490

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	1,100	Ladbroke	4,500
ASDA Gp	9,200	Land Secs	1,100
Abbey Ntl	3,400	Legal & Gn	3,100
Allnce & Leic	1,900	Lloyds TSB	17,800
Allied Dom	3,400	LucasVarity	6,200
AB Foods	816	Marks Spr	4,100
BAA	2,700	Mercury Ast	50
BAT Inds	9,800	NatWst Bk	14,400
BG	13,100	Nat Grid	3,300
BOC	770	Nat Power	2,600
BP	10,500	Next	694
BSkyB	2,600	Orange	2,100
BTR	19,200	P & O	994
BT	58,100	Pearson	5,600
Bk of Scot	2,800	PowerGen	1,700
Barclays	2,800	Prudential	3,800
Bass	2,400	RMC	185
Blue Circle	2,500	Railtrack	1,100
Boots	2,200	Rank Group	1,900
BAe	407	Reckitt Col	3,300
BA	7,500	Reed Intl	1,100
British Land	1,400	Rentokil	4,100
Brit Steel	6,100	Reuters	4,400
Burmah Cstl	3,400	Rio Tinto	2,200
Cable Wire	5,200	Rolls Royce	4,800
Cadbury	5,600	Royal & Sun	3,400
Carlton Cms	551	Royal Bk Sct	2,700
Centrica	16,300	Safeway	4,200
Cm Union	1,500	Sainsbury	7,600
Dixons	2,100	Schroders	247
EMI	1,400	Scot & New	1,000
Energy Gp	4,400	Scot Power	2,900
Enterpr Oil	572	Svrn Trent	1,400
GKN	578	Shell Trans	23,000
GRE	1,800	Siebe	2,100
GUS	3,300	SmKl Bch	4,300
Gen Acc	953	Smiths Inds	448
Gen Elec	11,300	Std Chartd	2,100
Glaxo Well	4,400	TI Gp	1,300
Granada	2,900	Tate & Lyle	6,900
Grand Met	5,500	Tesco	11,300
Guinness	4,500	Thames W	1,400
HSBC	3,300	Tomkins	8,200
Halifax	4,400	Unilever	1,300
Hanson	3,300	Utd Utilities	1,900
Hays	614	Utd News	530
ICI	3,700	Vodafone	14,700
Imp Tob	1,100	Whitbread	1,300
Kingfisher	1,700	Wolseley	734
LASMO	5,300	Zeneca	1,300

WALL STREET

	Aug 5 midday	Aug 4 close
AMP Inc	52	51½
AMR Corp	107⅜	107⅞
AT & T	37⅝	37⅞
Abbott Labs	63⅛	63⅛
Advanced Micro	37⅞	37⅞
Aetna Life	117	117
Ahmanson (HF)	51⅞	51⅞
Air Prod & Chem	86⅛	86⅛
AirTouch Comm	33⅜	33⅞
Albertson's	36⅛	35⅞
Alcan Aluminum	40⅛	39⅛
Allied Signal	92⅞	92⅛
Alum Co of Am	87⅝	87⅝
Amerada Hess	57⅞	58⅛
Amer El Power	44⅞	44⅛
Amer Express	83⅞	83⅞
Amer Genl Corp	51⅛	51⅞
Amer Home Pr	81⅛	81⅞
Amer Intl	101½	101½
Amer Stores	24⅞	24⅛
Amer Standard	50½	50⅞
Ameritech	67⅛	67⅞
Amgen	57⅛	57⅞
Amoco	93⅛	93⅞
Andrew Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Anheuser-Busch	43⅛	43⅞
Apple Computer	19⅛	19⅛
Archer Daniels	22⅛	22⅞
Armco	5⅞	5⅞
Armstrong Wrld	73⅞	74
Asarco	33⅞	33⅞
Atl Richfield	74⅞	75⅛
Atmel Corp	39⅛	39⅞
Auto Data Pro	48⅛	48⅞
Avery Dennison	43⅛	43⅞
Avon Products	69⅞	69⅛
Baker Hughes	43⅛	43½
Baltim Gas & El	27⅛	27⅛
Banc One	54⅞	54⅛
BankAmerica	72	73½
Bank of NY	47⅛	48
Bankers Tr NY	100⅞	101⅞
Barnett Banks	55⅞	55⅞
Bausch & Lomb	42⅛	43
Baxter Intl	57⅛	57⅛
Bectn Dickson	51½	51½
Bell Atlantic	73⅞	74⅛
BellSouth	47⅛	47⅞
Black & Decker	41½	41⅛
Block (H&R)	38⅛	38⅛
Boeing	58⅛	58⅛
Boise Cascade	36⅛	36⅛
Boston Scien	73⅞	72⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	78⅞	78⅛
Browning Ferris	35⅞	36⅞
Brunswick	31½	31½
Burlington Nthn	96⅛	96⅛
CMS Energy Corp	36⅛	36⅞
CPC Intl	95⅛	95⅞
CSX	60⅛	60⅞
Campbell Soup	51⅛	51½
Carolina Pwr	35⅛	35⅞
Case Corp	63⅛	63⅛
Caterpillar	58⅞	58⅛
Central & SW	20⅛	20⅞
Champion Intl	61½	62⅛
Chase Manhat	110⅞	111⅛
Chevron Corp	78⅞	79⅛
Chrysler	37	36⅞
Chubb Corp	68⅛	68⅛
Cigna Corp	196⅛	196⅞
Citicorp	134⅛	134⅞
Clorox	137⅞	136⅞
Coastal Corp	54⅞	54⅞
Coca Cola	68⅞	68⅞
Coca Cola Ent	30⅞	30⅞
Colgate-Palm	74⅛	74⅞
Columbia Gas	67⅛	67⅛
Columbia/HCA	33⅛	33⅛
Compaq Comp	57⅞	57⅛
Comp Ass Int	67⅞	67⅛
Conagra	69⅛	69⅛
Cons Edison	31⅛	31⅞
Cons Nat Gas	53⅞	52⅛
Cooper Inds	55⅞	55⅞
Corestates	62	61½
Corning Inc	64⅞	61
Cwide Credit	33⅞	33⅛
Crestar Finl	45⅞	45⅞
Crown Cork	51⅞	51½
Dana Corp	46⅞	47
Dayton Hudson	63⅞	63⅛
Deere	56⅛	56⅛
Delta Air Lines	88	88⅞
Deluxe Corp	33⅞	33⅛
Digital Equip	42⅛	42⅛
Dillard Dept St	39⅛	38⅞
Disney (Walt)	80⅛	80⅞
Dominion Res	36⅛	36⅞
Donnelley (RR)	40⅛	40⅛
Dover Corp	70⅛	70⅛
Dow Chemical	93⅛	93⅛
Dow Jones	43⅛	43⅞
Dresser	41⅞	41⅛
Duke Power	49⅛	50⅞
Dun & Bradstreet	28⅛	27⅞
Du Pont	66⅞	65⅞
Eastman Chem	60⅛	60⅞
Eastman Kodak	67⅞	66⅞
Eaton Corp	88⅛	89⅞

	Aug 5 midday	Aug 4 close
Edison Int	25⅞	25⅛
Elect Data Sys	45⅛	44
Emerson Elec	59⅛	59⅛
Engelhard Corp	21⅞	21⅞
Enron Corp	37⅞	37⅞
Entergy	26⅞	26⅛
Ethyl Corp	9⅛	9⅛
Exxon	63⅛	64
FMC Corp	84⅞	85⅛
FPL Group	47⅞	47⅛
Federal Express	64⅛	63⅞
Fifth Third Banc	61½	61⅞
Fleet Finl Grp	67⅛	67½
Fluor Corp	61½	61½
Ford Motor	41½	41½
Fortune Brands	35⅛	35⅞
Franklin Res	83⅛	83⅛
GTE Corp	46⅞	46⅛
Gannett	98⅛	97½
Gap Inc Del	43⅛	43⅛
Gen Dynamics	84⅛	84⅞
Gen Electric	67⅛	67⅞
Gen Mills	70⅞	70⅞
Gen Motors	63⅛	62⅞
Gen Reinsurance	202	202⅛
Gen Signal	49⅞	49⅛
Genuine Parts	32⅞	33⅞
Georgia Pac	94⅛	94
Gillette	97½	97½
Glaxo Wellc ADR	43⅞	43½
Goodrich (BF)	44⅛	45
Goodyear Tire	63⅞	64⅛
Grt Atl Pac Tea	26⅛	26⅛
Great Lakes	48⅞	48⅛
Halliburton	46⅛	46⅞
Harcourt General	46⅛	46⅞
Heinz (HJ)	45⅛	46
Hercules	53⅛	53⅛
Hershey Foods	57⅛	59⅛
Hewlett Packard	69⅛	69⅞
Hilton Hotels	32⅞	32⅞
Home Depot	49⅞	49⅛
Homestake Mng	13⅞	13⅞
Honeywell	75⅞	75⅛
Household Intl	123½	124⅛
Houston Inds	21⅛	20⅞
Humana	23⅞	24⅛
ITT Corp	62⅛	62⅞
Ikon Office	29	28⅞
Illinois Tool	51½	51½
Illinova	23½	23⅛
INCO	30½	31⅞
Ingersoll Rand	66⅞	67⅞
Inland Steel	23⅞	24
Intel Corp	98	96⅛
IBM	107	106⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	52⅛	53⅞
Intl Paper	56⅞	57⅞
James River Va	41½	42
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	61½	60⅛
Kellogg	94⅞	95⅞
Kerr-McGee	62⅛	63½
Kimberly-Clark	50½	49⅛
Kmart	11½	11⅞
Knight-Ridder	50⅞	49⅞
Lilly (Eli)	114⅞	115⅛
Limited Inc	22⅛	22⅛
Lincoln Nat	72⅛	73
Litton	50½	50⅛
Liz Claiborne	48⅞	48⅛
Lockheed Martin	104	103⅛
Louisiana Pac	22⅛	22⅞
MCI Comm	32⅞	33⅞
Manpower Inc	48⅛	48⅞
Marriott Intl	68⅛	68⅞
Marsh & McLen	76⅞	77⅛
Masco Corp	46⅛	47
May Dept St	55½	55½
Maytag Corp	28⅛	28⅞
McDonalds	52⅛	52⅞
McGraw-Hill	67⅞	67⅛
Mead Corp	70⅞	70⅛
Medtronic	92⅛	90⅛
Mellon Bk	49⅛	49⅛
Merck Inc	102⅞	102⅞
Merrill Lynch	68⅞	69⅞
Microsoft	142⅞	141⅞
Minnesota Mine	97⅞	98⅛
Mirage Resorts	28	26
Mobil Corp	75⅛	75⅞
Monsanto	48½	48⅞
Morgan (JP)	112½	114
Motorola Inc	84⅛	83½
Natl Semi	32⅞	32½
Natl Service Ind	48⅛	48⅛
Navistar Int	20⅛	20⅛
NY Times A	49½	49⅞
Newmont Mng	40⅞	41⅛
Nike B	62½	62⅛
NL Industries	13⅞	13⅛
Noram Energy	16	16
Nordstrom	55½	55
Norfolk Sthrn	109⅞	110
Nthn State Pwr	50½	50½
Norwest Corp	62	62⅞
Nynex Corp	58⅞	58½
Occidental Pet	24⅞	24⅛
Ohio Edison	22⅛	22⅛
Oracle	50⅞	50½
Oryx Energy Co	24⅛	24⅛

	Aug 5 midday	Aug 4 close
Owens Corning	42⅞	42⅛
PPG Industries	64⅞	64⅞
PMI Group	57⅞	57⅛
PNC Bank	44⅛	44½
PP&L Res	20⅞	20⅛
Paccar Inc	48⅞	49⅛
Pacificorp	20⅛	21⅛
Pac Enterprises	33½	33⅛
Pall Corp	24⅛	25
Parker Hannifin	64½	64⅞
Peco Energy	22⅛	22⅞
Penney (JC)	58⅞	59⅞
Pennzoil	77⅞	77⅛
Pepsico	38⅞	38½
Pfizer	57⅞	57½
Pharm & Upjhn	37⅛	37⅛
Phelps Dodge	83⅞	83⅞
Philip Morris	44⅞	44⅞
Phillips Pet	46⅛	45⅛
Pitney Bowes	75	75
Polaroid	59⅞	59⅛
Procter & Gmbl	149½	149⅞
Providian	38⅛	37⅛
Pub Serv E & G	24⅞	24⅛
Quaker Oats	50⅞	50⅛
Ralston Purina	89⅞	89
Raychem Corp	95⅞	95⅛
Raytheon	59⅞	59½
Reebok Intl	50⅞	50⅞
Reynolds Metals	78⅛	77⅛
Rockwell Intl	65⅞	65⅛
Rohm & Haas	96⅞	97⅛
Royal Dutch	56	55⅛
Rubbermaid	26⅞	26
SBC Comms	59⅛	58⅞
Safeco Corp	47⅞	48
St Paul's Cos	77½	77⅞
Sallie Mae	144⅞	144⅛
Salomon Inc	63⅞	63½
Sara Lee Corp	43⅛	43⅞
Schering Plough	53	52⅛
Schlumberger	75⅞	75⅛
Seagram	37⅞	38⅛
Sears Roebuck	64⅛	64⅛
Shell Trans	44⅛	43⅛
Sherwin Wlms	32⅛	32⅞
Silicon Graphics	27⅞	27⅞
Snap-On-Tools	41½	41⅞
Southern Co	21⅞	21½
Southtrust	46⅛	46⅛
Sprint Corp	47⅛	48⅞
Stanley Works	44⅛	44⅞
Sun Company	36	35⅛
Sun Microsys	46⅛	45⅛
Suntrust	62⅛	63⅞
Supervalu	40⅛	40⅛
Synovus Fin	28	28⅞
Sysco Corp	36⅛	36⅛
TRW Inc	57⅞	57⅞
TIG Hldgs	33	33
Tandem Comp	29⅞	29⅞
Tandy Corp	58⅛	58⅞
Temple Inland	66⅞	67
Tenet Healthcare	27⅛	27⅛
Tenneco	46⅛	47
Texaco	115½	115⅛
Texas Inst	127⅞	126⅛
Texas Utilities	34½	34⅞
Textron	67⅞	68⅞
Thermo Elect	35	34½
Time Warner	54⅞	54⅛
Times-Mirror A	52½	53⅛
Timken	35⅛	35⅛
Torchmark	38⅞	38⅛
Toys R Us	37⅞	37⅞
Transamerica	99⅛	100
Travelers	69⅞	69⅛
Tribune	51½	51½
UST Inc	28⅛	28⅛
US Bancorp	90	89⅞
UAL	80⅛	80⅞
US Inds	40⅞	40⅞
US West Comm	36⅛	36⅛
US West Media	24	23⅞
USAirways Group	39⅛	38⅛
USX Marathon	31⅞	31⅞
Unicom	22⅞	22⅞
Unilever NV	229⅞	229⅞
Union Camp	57⅛	57⅛
Union Carbide	55⅞	55⅛
Union Pacific	71⅞	71⅛
Unisys Corp	10⅞	11
USF&G Corp	23⅛	23⅞
United Tech	84½	84⅞
Unocal Corp	41½	40⅛
VF Corp	89⅛	89⅞
Wal-Mart Stores	37½	37⅛
Warner-Lambert	139⅛	138⅛
Waste Mngmt	32⅞	32⅞
Wells Fargo	272½	273⅛
Westinghouse El	24⅛	24½
Weyerhaeuser	62⅞	63
Whirlpool	50⅞	49⅞
Whitman	25⅞	25⅞
Winn Dixie	35⅛	36⅛
Witco Corp	45⅞	45⅛
Woolworth	28½	28⅛
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	76⅛	76⅛
Xerox	82⅛	82½
Xilinx Inc	54	53⅞

Warning for regulator: ease off the gas

Christine Buckley finds BG's customers and rival companies strangely keen to delay deregulation

The plot could come from an Ealing comedy. The rivals of a monopoly business and customers of that monopoly stepping up a campaign to slow down plans to introduce competition seems odd. After all the customers have discounts of more than 20 per cent on their bills to look forward to and the rivals have market share to seize.

But for some independent gas companies and the Gas Consumers Council there is more at stake in the opening of the next area of Britain to competition than getting it started on time. Fearing administrative mayhem they are urging restraint on a regulator who is keen to enable two and a half million more homes to shop around for their gas supply to add to the existing two million as soon as possible. The preferred date for Scotland and northeast England to join the already competitive areas of the South West and South East is November 1.

The view among many suppliers, including those with most to gain, such as the locally based ScottishPower, is that bringing in competition so quickly will trigger the confusion and administrative problems that dogged the first round of gas trials. Then controversy over the problems encountered in wrong bills, difficulties of switching supplier and marketing clouded the pioneering move to give households a choice of gas provider. As the next phase approaches suppliers and the consumers council are warning that more mistakes could prove fatal. They could so tarnish the image of gas competition that customers in the rest of the country shun choice when it arrives for them next year and stay with BG.

Clare Spottiswoode, the regulator, is keen to keep up the momentum of pushing BG into a competitive world — the ultimate objective of the privatisation of the company. She wants to press ahead with market development both to keep going a process that started more than a year ago and, she says, to catch the winter period. Customers will be able to get up to £10 per month off their bills if they go with a new supplier, she has said. But if the system is being pushed too far, too fast, the concept of gas competition could fall on its face, critics fear.

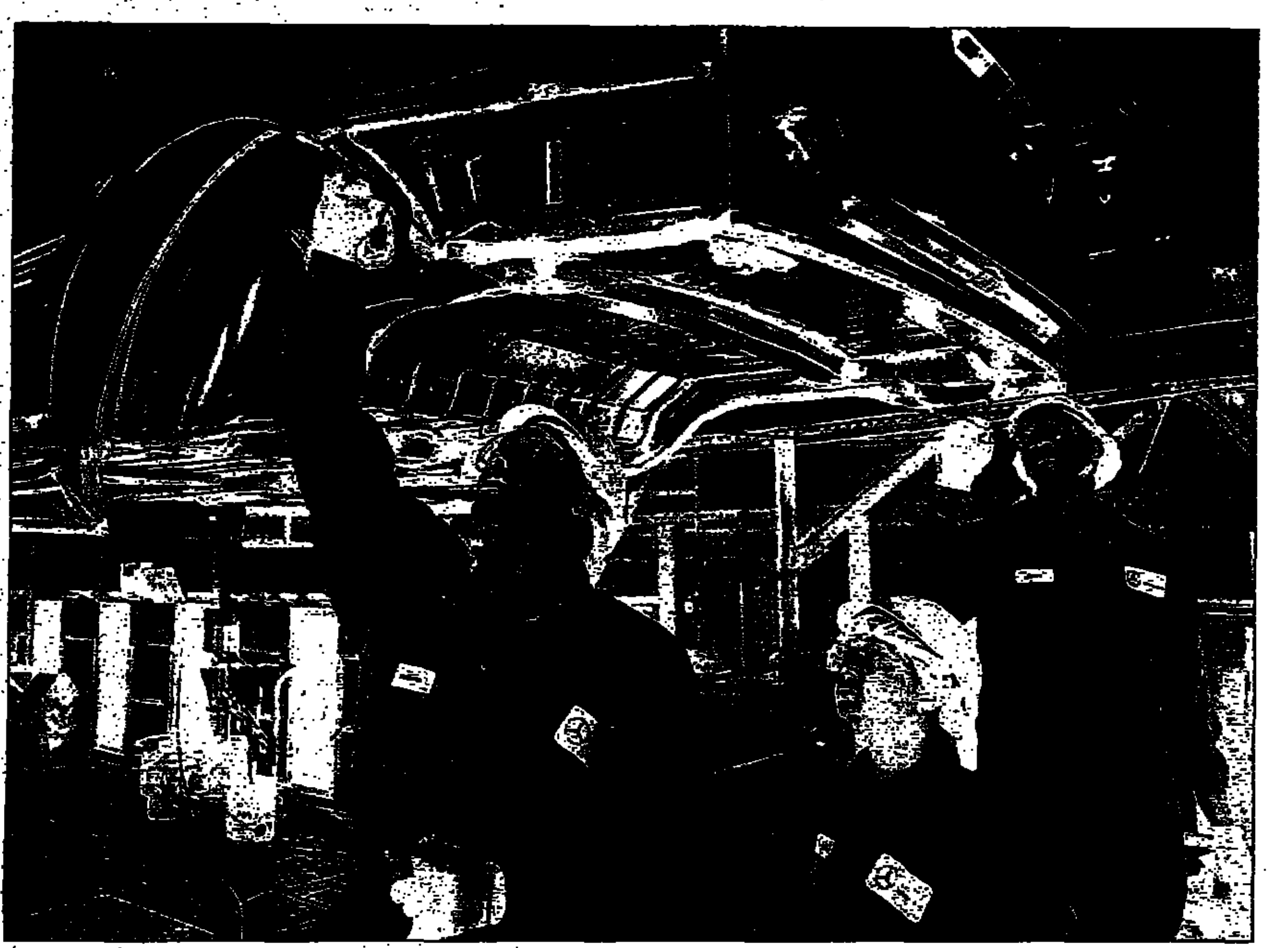
The last area to be removed from the grip of BG, involving Dorset, the former county of Avon, and East and West Sussex, became competitive in February. The first area — the South West — started offering choice in April last year. So far only 22 per cent of customers have switched despite large price reductions offered by competitors to BG. For the next round of competition to be delivered by November 1 Transco, BG's pipeline network, has had to develop an interim solution that will enable customers to switch gas company until the main system can be made ready. It is the robustness of this interim arrangement that rivals and the consumers council are fearful of. Transco itself has warned Ofgas that the interim measure "is not without risk".

On top of these increased fears about the mechanics of competition for Scotland and the North East are the concerns about how the market is shaping in terms of the numbers of companies committed to the national market. At the start of competition more than 10 companies piled into the South West. But with comparatively few customers switching supplierand the expense involved it is becoming clear that the gas market is likely to be made up of just a handful of national players.

The independent gas suppliers are all still gung ho that domestic competition can be viable for several companies on a national scale. The fierce competition between them makes it all the more vital that the market is not weakened by technical problems and customer mistrust.

Mercedes-Benz drives deep into Dixie with a bold, new venture

Ian Brodie on a melding of cultures at the German carmaker's Alabama plant



All workers are "team members" — outfitted, from the boss down, in polo shirts bearing their first name

Alabama has a new star. It is the three-pointed symbol of Mercedes-Benz, rotating above a glistening factory to announce the arrival of Germany's largest industrial manufacturer deep in the heart of Dixie.

Next month the all-new, four-wheel-drive Mercedes produced by this bold venture in transatlantic collaboration will begin rolling into American showrooms. They will not tarry there for long. The first 20,000 have been sold and the waiting list at some dealers stretches two years ahead.

Their arrival on American roads is the culmination of a remarkable melding of cultures, bringing together German engineers, committed to upholding the quality standards of Mercedes and open, friendly Alabamans, some of whom were unable to tell a nut from a bolt, but eager to learn from and to work for a world-famous company.

It is not the first time a German carmaker has set up in the South. BMW's plant in Spartanburg, South Carolina, is currently at full stretch, producing the much sought after BMW Z3 sportscar.

The Germans have made great strides to "bond" with the Americans. All workers are "team members" — outfitted, from the boss down, in polo shirts bearing the wearer's first name. There is no executive car park. Those who arrive first get the best spaces. And there is no executive dining room, just one canteen for all. The staid headquarters of Daimler-Benz in Stuttgart is said to have taken note of this egalitarianism.

The venture was made possible by extraordinary incentives and tax breaks from the state of Alabama, which was desperate to catch up with neighbouring states in attracting overseas firms. Alabama can also offer year-round good weather, educated workers, ample space, splendid roads and a choice of deepwater ports.

Alabama's incentives were worth nearly $275 million (£170 million), or $180,000 per worker. They included $90 million for job training, $42.6 million towards capital equipment for the assembly line, plus $120.4 million for a rail spur to the plant, a new highway exit, piped water and the flattening of hills on the greenfield site north of Tuscaloosa.

Alabama also passed legislation granting a 20-year holiday from state taxes to companies making large capital investments, a break worth $1 million a year to Mercedes-Benz. The package went so far beyond anything seen before that other states cried foul, although one confidentially offered to outbid Alabama. Many in Alabama also wondered if they were being too generous to foreigners. That ill-feeling has evaporated now the benefits are becoming apparent. The company will have a payroll of 1,500 and another 11,000 jobs are being created in the area by suppliers. Eventually there will be new houses, hotels and shops. The ripple effect will be felt throughout the state.

Even more important, perhaps, the project marks a coming of age for Alabama. Since the Fifties, the state has borne the stain of its opposition to the black civil rights movement. There were savage clashes in Selma, Montgomery and Birmingham. Publicity generated by the arrival of Mercedes-Benz allows Alabama to show it now has an integrated workforce.

Alabamans inundated Mercedes-Benz with 62,000 job applications. The Germans set up 60 hours of lessons and testing to narrow the numbers to the cream of the crop. Karl Heinz Sauer, a seasoned Mercedes-Benz executive, looked for people with a willingness to work as a team. Knowledge of engineering was not essential, but an aptitude for it was. Applicants were shown how to read blueprints and how to weld. They were questioned about attitudes to work — for example, how would they deal with an unruly team member? Correct answer: In a calm manner, and if that fails seek help. Herr Sauer said: "Americans learn three times faster than anyone, including Germans."

The first 160 hired were sent to Germany for up to seven months of training. Sherry Snow and Angelia Smith said that being so far from home was scary at first, but they would love to go back. They write to German families who befriended them. Ms Smith said: "Before I went over there I couldn't even change a tyre. Now I can fix my own car."

Dozens of German instructors moved to Alabama and 70 still work in the factory, teaching Americans exact procedures for every task, such as the right way to tighten a nut. Their children attend local schools, rapidly acquiring English with a southern twang. The Germans are overwhelmed by American friendliness and find their compatriots curt when they return home. The Germans have acquired a taste for southern barbecued ribs, the Americans for German wine and beer.

Presiding over these social, national and automotive cross-currents is Andreas Renschler, chief executive officer or "team leader", who has been pivotal in pulling off the huge manufacturing and marketing gamble of building a new vehicle in a new country with untested workers.

He is a lanky, 39-year-old German who says the project started from scratch. He interviewed hundreds for his management team before picking executives from Mercedes, Nissan, Toyota, General Motors and Ford. Given their differing corporate backgrounds, their early brainstorming sessions often lasted 15 hours at a stretch.

Total investment by Mercedes-Benz is $1.1 billion, divided between Alabama and factories in Germany where engines and transmissions are made. The project is the firm's latest foray into globalisation that has seen the launch of various overseas assembly plants, including one in India making E-class Mercedes that have not caught on as well as expected.

Jurgen Schrempp, chairman of Daimler-Benz, says Alabama is a story about change in the way the company looks at itself and does things as well as about producing an entirely new vehicle. As luxurious as a Mercedes saloon car inside, the ML320 has serious off-road capability and a light price, $35,000. Early reviews in the motoring press have been glowing. The US is the leading market for these sport-utility vehicles, but 40 per cent will go for export and the first right-hand drive versions are due in Britain next summer.

For quality control, production has started slowly, 70 vehicles a day, rising to 140 when a second shift is added next month and with an eventual target of 270. Projections are that a profit can be turned in four years, half way through the production cycle.

Hourly wages are from $14 to $19, high for Alabama but less than in Germany where the cost of living is considerably greater. The biggest difference is in hours worked — 2,000 a year in America compared with 1,500 in Germany. Unlike Germany, no unions have taken hold in the Alabama plant, where workers are genuinely proud to have been chosen by Mercedes.

Mr Renschler said: "People are the most important part of the operation. I must know what their problems are and if I cannot find a solution I'll tell them why. I don't want anyone here who won't let me talk to my team members. I don't need somebody to translate my thoughts to them."

ANTHONY HARRIS

Screen trades make for dull dog days

It used to be fun. When stocks were still traded on the exchange floor, the mice played hard once the cats were away. The August air was thick with paper aeroplanes, insults and rumours; and every now and then a broker would emerge trouserless in Throgmorton Street. And serious business was done, too. August was the traditional month for a French devaluation. Currency books were normally squared before the senior partners disappeared, though every now and then some bold soul left a short franc position open, and the champagne flowed.

Non-French central bankers also tended to be away, resting before the IMF annual jamboree; but the Bank of England did play possum at least once. The franc was looking strong for a change, so the Paris market decided to enliven the holiday with a ritual raid on sterling. But the Bank knew its Frenchmen; they might get busy on an August morning, but nothing would keep them from lunch. It let the pound fall all morning, but as soon as the lunchtime lull set in, it mounted the mother of all bear squeezes. The celebration took place on the wrong side of the Channel.

> ❛ They might get busy but nothing would keep them from lunch ❜

But it was the share market which usually saw the big action. What better time for launching a big hostile bid than while the defence was helpless on some distant beach? (No mobile phones, remember.) Some major restructuring was achieved in this way, until finance directors and their merchant banks learnt to provide better holiday cover. And helpful rumours could be launched untraceably (try that on the e-mail) sure of eager circulation on the sleepy floor. This weakness was exploited by Sir Charles Clore and other canny operators, either softening the market for a bid, or using the rumour of one to lubricate a stealthy sales programme.

When it wasn't silly it was, you may argue, highly improper. Those playing these games were really trying to trade as insiders; today's remote-control market is, by contrast, clinically clean, and a good thing too, no doubt.

And I suppose it was bound to happen; the market in those days was not only technically primitive, but extremely small. Everyone on the floor knew everyone else, so there was a kind of intelligence network, though a faulty one. It could hardly happen today, even if traders still met on one floor. Launching a canard would be like trying to start a scare in the UN General Assembly: it would get garbled at once, and die away in minutes.

It isn't all gain, though. Memory suggests that there was a mass of sound information at large, along with the rubbish; indeed, had it not been so, nobody would have listened. Some of the most successful brokers were not the young trading junkies of today, but sociable types, apparently thick — they would have looked at home in a rugger scrum, and quite a few were. But like Dorothy Sayers's splendid invention, Freddy Arbuthnot, whose advice Lord Peter Wimsey relied on, they were shrewd, and had a keen sense of smell. Memory suggests that fraudsters had a much harder time of it. Polly Peck? Wouldn't touch it, old boy. And BCCI? You must be joking.

Would it be possible to retore such helpful intimacy to the world of screen trading? Doubtful, but not quite out of the question. Note first that those markets where floor trading has survived — the derivatives markets, both in London and Chicago, and the metals and commodities floors — remain almost entirely free of scandal. It is hard to do dirty deeds in plain sight. One can imagine that a more formal division of the electronic marketplace into specialist pitches would encourage openness and breed information.

But the real obstacle would remain: insider trading laws which make ignorance the only proof of honesty. This is not the time of year for another sermon on that topic; but Alistair Darling did float some interesting ideas about well-informed long-term holders in his Shadow days. Now he is a real-life minister: any hope there?

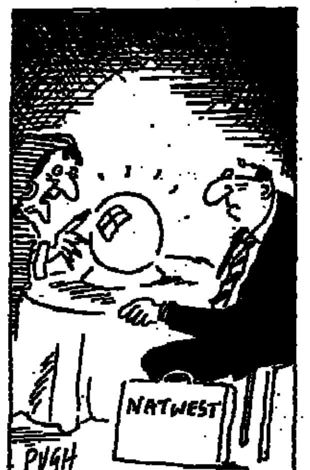
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Booking out

THE glamorous world of international casinos is light years away from the rather grubby business of running hostels for the homeless. So imagine my surprise to discover the other business interests of Alan Goodenough, whose persuasive powers were not good enough to convince Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade, to allow his London Clubs International to buy Capital Corporation. For the past couple of years, Lyric Hotels, a mid-market regional hotel chain where Goodenough is chairman, has been running the Thorncliffe Hotel, a 300-bedroom establishment just off the M4 at Heston in west London. Its clientele bear little resemblance to London Clubs' high-rolling patrons.

According to a sales prospectus discreetly distributed by Christie & Co, the property agent, the Thorncliffe's customers are "referrals from a number of different local authorities" as well as "guests taken from the Heathrow Refugees Arrival Project". Tramps and undercarriage-clingers, in other words.

Lyric, which is considering a listing on the AIM, has decided to sell because the hotel does not fit the group's profile. It certainly can't be because it doesn't make money. In the year to February, the Thorncliffe made profits of £863,000 on turnover of £1.6 million, and this year is expected to make more than £1 million from sales of £1.8 million. Christie is asking for offers over £7 million.



"I see a tall dark stranger sitting at your desk"

■ *THOSE nice, caring, people at The National Trust are beginning to resemble that breed of lawyers that hangs around hospital emergency entrances handing out business cards. Not content with selling properties to fund its stock market punts, it has taken to mail-shotting elderly members explaining how to go about making a will. Michael Beaumont, head of the legacies unit, writes: "You may feel grateful for all the trust's places that you have been able to enjoy." Nothing like being subtle.*

Overruled

HEADS you win . . . Last week, John Bridgeman, Director-General of Fair Trading, advised Margaret Beckett to grant conditional approval to the merger of PacifiCorp and Energy Group on the ground that there were no competition concerns. She overruled him, saying that there were regulatory issues. This is a neat reversal on earlier days, when Bridgeman advised against the proposed merger of North West Water and Norweb on regulatory grounds. Ian Lang overruled him, saying there were no competition concerns. You figure it out.

Thai twist

BACKPACKERS in the Thai resort of Phuket, setting for those jungle-clad islands in *The Man With The Golden Gun*, are getting a taste of fine Italian fashion. Ferrucio Ferragamo, chief executive of the eponymous luxury goods group, has sent three of his children on a world trip — a reward for doing well in their studies. Salvatore and James, 25-year-old twins, are in the Thai resort with their sister Vivia, 23, en route to Australia, America and Mexico. Graduates of New York University, Salvatore did a stint with KPMG, while James was with Goldman Sachs in London. Vivia studied fashion and enjoyed a spell with Saks Fifth Avenue in New York. Expect a Thai twist in the next batch of Ferragamo handbags.

Pundit time?

COULD David Rigg, soon to step down as director of communications at Camelot, be destined for a new career as a political pundit? Rigg, 50 next year, has placed bets on every British general election since 1959, when he was a chirpy 11-year-old, and claims an unbroken success record. "The only thing I ever bet on is general elections and I have won on every one," he tells me. He correctly predicted the Tory majority in 1992, and was right again in May, when he voted Labour for the first time. Not that he has always demonstrated an unerring political instinct.

■ *DEFINITION of first officer (ie co-pilot) circulating among BA flight crew: "Second-in-command, does almost all of the work and gets almost none of the credit. His duties include feigning rapture as the captain describes in detail all 96 strokes of his last golf round, or the difficulties encountered during installation of the new central heating system in his five-bedroom house."*

JON ASHWORTH

David Rigg likes to bet on general elections

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

- For AIB see Govett (John)

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	801.60	852.60	- 7.70	2.22
General Inc	664.10	706.50	+ 6.30	2.22
UK Growth Acc	554.60	590.10	+ 5.30	2.15
UK Growth Inc	354.60	377.30	- 3.40	2.15
Higher Inc Acc #	970.30	1032.30	-10.40	4.60
Higher Inc Inc #	509.00	541.50	- 5.40	4.60
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	220.40	232.70	- 0.40	5.48
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	94.11	99.35	- 0.14	5.48
Nth America	429.20	456.70	+ 0.90	
Europe	433.40	461.10	- 4.60	
Brit Excell	110.70	117.80	+ 1.10	2.28
Brit Fndmtls Acc	133.60	142.30	+ 0.80	4.30
Brit Fndmtls Inc	88.14	93.77	- 0.56	4.30
Global Opps	117.40	124.90	- 0.30	
Balanced Acc	72.17	76.78	+ 0.36	2.04
Balanced Inc	66.70	70.96	+ 0.24	2.04
Japan Acc	43.38	46.15	- 0.23	
Pac Basin Acc	419.70	446.50	- 0.80	0.87
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilt & Fixed Int	136.50	144.80	+ 0.10	6.34
High Inc Equity	210.30	224.90†	+ 0.40	4.31
Worldwide Bond	266.50	281.60†	- 0.40	3.95
American Growth	519.60	554.80		0.30
Asian Pacific	369.80	394.80	+ 0.50	0.36
Assets & Earnings	327.00	349.70	- 1.00	2.67
Euro Capital Acc	236.10	252.50	- 0.30	0.79
Extra Inc	43.03	46.63†	+ 0.16	8.43
General	299.50	318.60†	+ 1.10	2.89
Global Opps	83.67	89.01	- 0.13	0.45
Japan	101.00	108.00	- 1.20	
Managed Inc	51.36	54.64†	+ 0.05	4.12
[illegible]	192.20	205.60	- 0.30	1.08
US Emerging Cos	214.40	229.30	+ 1.40	
Ethical	83.58	88.91	+ 0.01	2.06
International	157.20	167.20		0.52
Dividend & Growth	77.64	82.60†	- 0.30	4.07
Global Gwth & Sec	77.32	82.63	+ 0.05	2.44
Latin America	99.73	106.10	- 0.50	0.37
Capital Reserve	129.90	149.90	+ 0.10	4.66
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
NAP UK Gwth	106.80	113.60†	+ 1.10	2.05
Equity Income	150.50	160.10	+ 1.10	4.13
Extra Income	288.30	306.50	+ 2.40	5.74
Smaller Cos	102.80	109.30	+ 0.30	1.75
International	132.10	140.50		1.34
ABERDEEN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
American	79.08	82.21	+ 0.21	
Emerging Mkts	83.34	86.79†	- 0.15	0.07
European	169.21	175.97	- 1.44	
Extra Income #	54.76	57.62	- 0.26	5.19
Far East Emg Eco	130.43	136.81†	- 0.15	0.39
Fixed Interest #	26.28	27.32†	- 0.02	8.59
Fund Inv Tst #	167.34	175.67†	- 0.32	9.68
Japan	185.70	192.93†	- 1.35	
Latin American	83.14	87.50†	- 0.23	
Pacific	84.67	88.88	- 0.32	0.10
Property	83.67	87.82†	+ 0.32	1.50
UK Emerging Cos	67.06	72.47†	- 0.25	1.09
UK Growth	66.62	69.38	+ 0.55	1.36
Aber World Port #	92.26	97.09	+ 0.10	2.45
Ethical	93.28	98.61	+ 0.11	0.99
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.50	50.50	- 0.04	6.95

For Abtrust see Aberdeen

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2328.00	2432.00		
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
[illegible] #	105.90	112.60		5.04

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	165.54	178.00	- 0.42	0.69
UK Equity	110.45	117.96	+ 0.79	2.85
UK Equity & Bd	63.68	67.49	+ 0.16	5.26
UK Smlr Cos	50.97	54.52	- 0.06	1.74
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	898.44	912.02	.	3.79
Inv Fd Acc	909.97	923.73		
Fxd Int Sec Inc	161.66	162.30		6.81
Fxd Int Sec Acc	165.34	166.00	...	...
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	892.62	906.12		3.84
Investment Acc	4251.32	4315.58	.	
Fixed Int Inc	130.60	131.21		8.84
Fixed Int Acc	254.09	255.11		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	92.80	97.78	.	5.12
Beck Bio-Tech	39.84	42.10†	. .	...
Acorn Ethical 1st	196.65	206.50†		0.44
City Fin Assets	85.47	89.75		1.85
City Fin Intl	97.89	102.79		0.06
Frass Hse Cap	334.04	356.36†		1.67
Buckley Wrld Gth	154.34	163.80		.
Stnr Utilities	73.92	75.45	- 0.07	4.61
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	67.45	71.57	- 0.18	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	98.26	104.53		
Dragon Growth	78.14	83.57		0.24
Equity High Inc	106.07	112.24	.	3.54
-do- Accum	157.12	166.26	.	3.54
Extra Income Inc	27.83	29.33†		6.48
Extra Income Acc	31.93	33.65		6.48
European Gwth	79.86	84.51		0.06
Evergreen	33.99	36.35	.	
General Equity	123.88	130.74	.	2.56
Japan Growth	44.26	47.08		
Pedigree Gwth	72.51	76.73		2.02
Pvd Sm Cos Inc	38.53	40.77		1.46
-do- Accum	41.26	43.66		1.46
Retirement Inc #	31.48	33.49		5.60
Special Sits	50.05	54.60	.	2.83
UK & Overseas	70.88	75.00		0.38
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	77.18	80.39†	- 0.12	3.84
Capital	95.67	99.56†	- 0.45	2.21
High Income	54.09	56.34†	- 0.11	6.57
Top 50	68.84	71.70†	+ 0.65	2.25
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	210.12	218.90	+ 0.68	4.41
Long Gilt	47.17	49.11†	- 0.12	5.78
Monthly Inc Plus	54.26	56.53	- 0.11	7.93
Preference Share	51.34	53.46†	- 0.17	7.29
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	152.08	158.43†	- 2.68	5.65
Managed Fund	86.16	89.76	+ 0.05	2.52
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	52.07	54.25	+ 2.00	1.56
-do- Accum	62.29	64.88	+ 2.40	1.56
UK & General	118.09	123.02	+ 1.03	2.38
-do- Accum	156.54	163.08	+ 1.36	2.28
UK Growth	230.15	239.76	+ 1.87	1.64
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	255.90	266.59	- 2.50	0.50
Far Eastern Gth	141.17	147.07	- 0.30	0.19

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
New Japan	77.22	81.55	- 1.45	
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	206.60	219.90†	- 0.30	.
Income #	243.29	258.75†	+ 0.13	4.07
UK Growth	92.67	98.58†	+ 0.19	1.88
Intl Growth	100.48	106.89†	+ 0.30	0.52
Ecology	109.09	116.05	- 0.06	0.75
European	238.20	253.40†	- 1.65	0.30
Far Eastern	349.85	372.18†	- 2.77	
UK Special Sits	59.87	63.85	- 0.09	0.38
Fd of Inv Tsts	60.86	64.91	+ 0.13	0.92
High Income #	56.64	60.41	+ 0.16	4.63
Financial Opps	49.54	52.84	- 0.12	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	212.10	224.30	+ 0.98	4.86
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	124.43	132.37	+ 1.24	0.28
Intl Bond	61.50	64.69	+ 0.16	3.85
Intl Equity Growth	99.59	106.78	+ 0.48	0.37
N Amer Growth	173.65	184.17	+ 0.08	0.47
Special Sits Growth	32.43	34.40	+ 0.18	2.11
UK Growth	539.82	574.27	+ 3.40	2.47
-do- Accum	752.99	801.65	+ 4.74	2.47
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1580.40	1602.40	.	2.70
Income #	1142.20	1159.90†	. .	4.40

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7254				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	105.20	108.70	- 0.20	6.53
Euro Pfrs Inc	119.20	126.80†	- 0.40	2.75
-do- Accum	119.50	127.10†	- 0.50	2.75
Gilt Yield	122.00	129.70	- 0.20	6.24
Global Income	261.62	278.30†	+ 0.60	2.88
High Yield	192.40	204.70†	+ 2.30	4.56
-do- Accum	655.40	697.20†	+ 8.30	4.56
Money Market	100.72	100.73†	+ 0.01	6.73
Smlr Cos Div	63.07	67.10†		3.86
[illegible] Co En Acc	1120.50	1136.00	+12.00	3.40
Capital Growth Trusts				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	184.50	188.10†		3.63
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Inc #	100.00	103.10†	+ 0.10	6.71
M & S Inv Pfolio	203.00	209.30†	+ 0.40	2.10
-do- Accum	246.00	253.60†	+ 0.50	2.10
UK Sel Pfolio	185.30	191.10	+ 1.40	2.13
-do- Accum	229.00	233.10	+ 1.80	2.13
UK 100 Cos	147.00	147.00	+ 1.40	2.25
-do- Accum	150.70	150.70	+ 1.50	2.25
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed 1st	75.59	80.42		3.04

Equities near all-time high

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
469	407½	Allied Domecq	443½	+ 1	6.1	13.3
625	410	Balmoral (HP)	427½	...	4.3	11.7
75½	40½	Burn Stewart	41½	...	10.2	30.8
1040	865	Glenmorangie A	950		1.7	23.5
631	425½	Grand Met	591	+ 1½	3.2	19.8
627	424	Guinness	585		3.4	18.7
380	321½	Highland Dist	322	- ½	3.3	25.1
336	235½	Matthew Clark	239½	- 1	12.2	7.5
109½	52½	[illegible]	60		6.6	14.6
1976½	1462½	SA Breweries	1943¾	+ 8½	2.0	...

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BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]	100	Treas 7% 1997	100 †	...	7.00	
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	[illegible]	...	8.74	6.67
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	[illegible]	...	14.74	6.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	[illegible]	...	9.64	7.01
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	[illegible]		7.24	7.08
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	[illegible]		13.31	7.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	14.22	7.16
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	[illegible]	..	11.34	7.17
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	[illegible]		9.22	7.17
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	[illegible]	..	11.38	7.17
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	[illegible]		9.96	7.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	[illegible]	...	6.12	7.05
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	[illegible]	..	9.64	7.16
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	[illegible]	..	8.64	7.16
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.81	7.14
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	11.30	7.21
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.21	7.20
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.04	7.14

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 2002	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.03	7.09
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.81	7.20
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.69	7.15
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.88	7.20
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11½% 2001-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.14	7.21
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.06	5.99
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.41	7.16
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.90	7.12
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.85	7.16
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.37	7.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.80	7.23
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.32	7.14
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.47	7.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.79	7.22
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.77	7.16
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 2007	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.17	7.09
116	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.87	7.11
[illegible]	101	Treas 8% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.47	7.11

LONGS (over 15 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¼% 2010	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.75	7.11
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.73	7.11
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.68	7.11
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.29	6.86
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.37	7.09
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.34	7.12
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2015	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.29	7.03
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.43	7.07
[illegible]	[illegible]	Tr 8% 2021	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.18	7.00

UNDATED

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.07	
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 2½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.22	
[illegible]	[illegible]	Consols 4%	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.38	

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]		2.56
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.06	3.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.28	3.67
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.28	3.67
[illegible]	190	Treas IL 2% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.30	3.61
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.32	3.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.35	3.57
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.37	3.56
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.38	3.55
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	154	[illegible]	3.42	3.57
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.44	3.57
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.43	3.56

PHARMACEUTICALS

PRINTING & PAPER

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

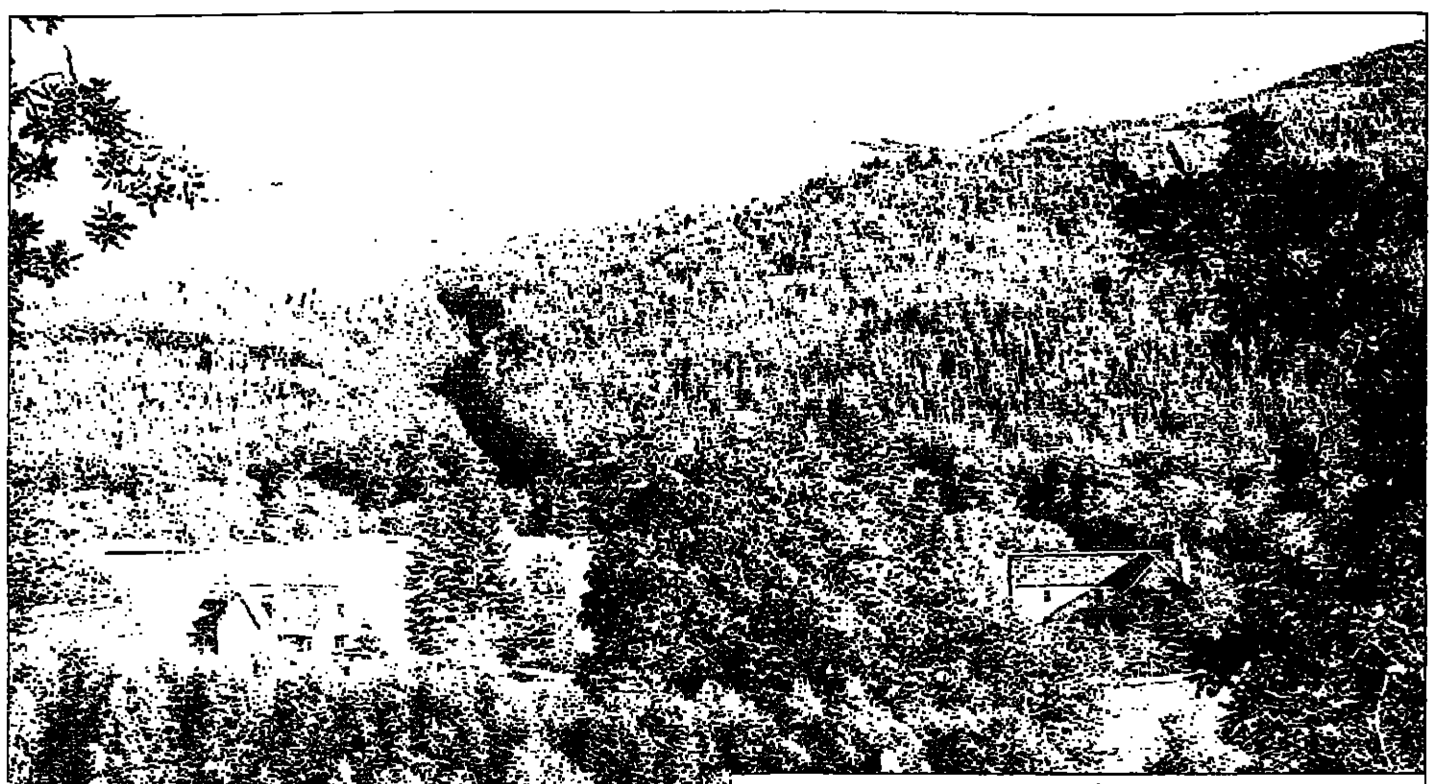
1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
811	577½	Anglian	779½	+ 8	5.5	10.4
275	203	East Surrey	274		4.9	11.1
881½	740	Hyder	829	- 12	6.6	7.1
111½	101½	Hyder Cap Pf	106½	- ½	3.2	
640	532½	Mid Kent Hldgs	585		6.4	10.9
914½	663	Severn Trent	850	+ 1	5.4	9.5
2930	2755	South Staffs	2930		3.9	12.8
825	586½	South West	761	+ 2	6.0	9.4
818½	593½	Thames	785	+ 8½	5.5	9.2
789	605½	Utd Utilities	696½	+ 3	6.7	11.7
501	344½	Wessex	462½	..	4.9	8.9
465½	325	Yorkshire	436½	+ 9	5.3	9.3

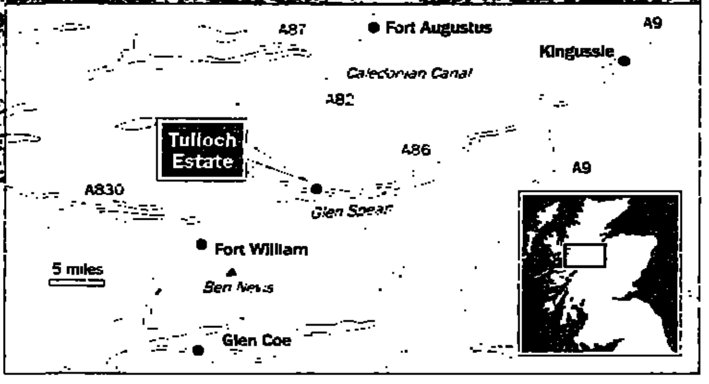
ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
115½	84½	Abacus Recruit	109½		0.6	21.2
215	170	Cale Inns▼	185		2.0	17.4
230	153½	Country Gdns	175½	+ ½	1.1	16.2
202½	180	Dawson Hldgs	217½		2.8	21.0
51½	33½	Freepages	34½	+ ½		
96½	75	Megalomedia	87		0.3	..
65	22½	Memory Corp	28½			
590	380	Prism Rail	325			
1265	845	Ramco Egy	1110	- 10	0.1	
783	619½	Southern News	746	.	3.1	24.2
72½	65½	Southern Vectis	67½		3.9	.
510	410	Surrey Fr Inns	473	+ 4	0.8	.
60½	17½	Trocadero	24	- 1		

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension, † Ex dividend ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution * Figures or report awaited .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.





Great shooting: the 6.044-acre Tulloch Estate in Inverness-shire

As the Glorious Twelfth approaches, **Diana Wildman** reports on the attractions of great Scottish estates

Join the shooting set

Sporting aficionados will be gearing themselves up for the most high-profile date in the shooting calendar — the Glorious Twelfth. Next Tuesday is the first day of the grouse-shooting season, which continues in England until December 10 and in Scotland until mid-September, when deer stalking takes preference.

In the 1880s the Government made a law banning grouse shooting until August 12, as the young birds, born in May, were not considered good sport before that date. Scottish estates, which fell in value by between a third and a half during the recessionary years, are now almost back to their 1988 values, according to Andrew Rettie of Strutt & Parker's Edinburgh office. He says: "Unlike farms, sporting estates are valued on the annual records of grouse, stags and salmon, as well as residential and agricultural elements. Capital values have varied enormously since the beginning of the 1980s, from a low of £7,500 per salmon to a high of £13,000."

Mr Rettie has been seeking offers above £550,000 for the 6,044-acre Tulloch Estate 17 miles east of Fort William in Inverness-shire. The estate, under offer, has some walked-up grouse shooting, with a five-year average of 17.1 brace. Tulloch has three duck ponds. There is rough shooting for woodcock and snipe, trout fishing on the Spean and red deer-stalking. Accommodation includes the main lodge, a farmhouse and two cottages. (Details: 0131-226 2500.)

Robert Frewen of Strutt & Parker's Harrogate office says there is huge variety in the quality of estates. "A Yorkshire estate averaging 1,000 brace of grouse each year over ten years should have a capital value of £3 million, assuming a straight moor purchase with a keeper's cottage," he says. "But buyers should be careful not to pay too much. If there is a huge scope for upgrading a moor which would improve the number of brace, a buyer could double the capital value of his investment, but one that is efficiently run may not have much scope for capital growth."

A day's shooting in Yorkshire averages between £80 and £100 a brace and most shoots are reserved from year to year. But Mr Frewen has three days of driven grouse shooting available for this season near Pateley Bridge, North Yorkshire. Allow £1,000 a gun a day. "I believe we are in for a good season," he says. (Details: 01423 561274.)

Guy Galbraith of Savills' Edinburgh office quotes £1.8 million for Glenturret Estate, one of Perthshire's best-known grouse moor estates. The grouse moor extends to 4,794 acres of heather hill and provides two separate driven days with a ten-year average annual bag of 400 brace.

There is red deer stalking, a driven hill partridge shoot, snipe and woodcock and four duck flighting ponds. The lodge is in the centre of the estate. (Details 0131-226 6961.)

Hanging over the market is the fact that, with the proposed ban on fox hunting still on the Government's agenda, there is uncertainty over the future of the sporting estate. Richard Tufnell of Cluttons (0171-408 1010) says: "Pheasant shoots that rely on substantial rearing programmes may be subject to restrictions. Grouse moors could be particularly badly affected by a ban on snares, the main method of controlling foxes.

"An established pheasant shoot might add 5 per cent to the overall value of an estate. Consequently the loss of any value of the shoot in the long term may be offset by movement in value of other elements of the estate, such as the residential."

Finally, Knight Frank quotes £1.7 million for Glenrossal Estate, set in 2,500 acres in Sutherland. There is a turreted Highland shooting lodge, stalking, grouse shooting, a small pheasant shoot and fishing. (Details: 0131-2258171).

Be brave – cut out the middleman

Jonathan Prynn explains how he bypassed agents

I always used to believe estate agents when they said that private house sales never work out. "It always ends in tears, you know," it was patiently explained to me by the so-called professionals of the property market. But they were wrong. It can be done. I know it can be done, because I have just bought the house of my dreams without an estate agent coming within fibbing distance of my new front door. I have never seen details of the property. I don't know the length of the garden. I don't even know the extent of the "invaluable" storage space. But I don't care. I have my house.

HE WAS RIGHT. IT ALL ENDED IN TEARS–HIS
HOUSE FOR SALE
TERMS AGREED
–TERMS BEING
NO ESTATE AGENTS!
CONTRACT
CONTRACT
Clueless, Useless & Chinless ESTATE AGENTS

It all started one bleak February day shortly before my girlfriend and I had moved out of our west London flat. OK, we got a good price for our place and it was a warm feeling to have large amounts of cash in our bank account, but that was little compensation for finding ourselves homeless in a competitive housing market.

We had done all the standard stuff — the soul-destroying tour of the estate agents, registering with dozens and viewing what seemed like hundreds of dreary, pokey and over-priced properties.

I had not been impressed with the standard of service we were getting. All right, there is a terrible shortage of good property on the market: but these are people's hopes, dreams and homes we are talking about.

Too often, I walked away from estate agents feeling I would have got more attention if I were buying a £500 sofa. But it was not hundreds of pounds at stake, it was hundreds of thousands. Too often the service was offhand, inattentive and, frankly, incompetent.

After several abortive and distressing attempts to buy places we liked the look of, we were beginning to give up hope. We knew the streets we wanted to live in but properties in them never seemed to come on the market or, if they did, we would always be through the door a day late. Somehow, the agents, however well-briefed, could never get it quite right.

A more direct approach was needed. We decided, as a last resort, to put leaflets explaining our interest through the door of every house in the two streets we liked best. For weeks we heard nothing. Meanwhile, an agent had showed us a house that, if not perfect, more closely matched our needs than anything we had seen recently.

Events progressed. Lawyers were talking to lawyers and surveyors had been put to work. Everything was proceeding well. Then one night, I got the call. "Is that J. Prynn?" the voice said. "Are you still interested in Felicity Road?" We were. We went to see the property. It was perfect. The vendor, who had lived with his family at the four-bedroom house for 18 years, was keen to cut out agents. We were happy to oblige.

Three agents were dutifully contacted and valuations given. Our vendor was prepared to offer the house at the lowest of the three prices quoted, and that arrangement seemed more than reasonable to us.

In the weeks that followed, the negotiations went through many of the ups and downs that inevitably dog any property transaction. At times, the deal seemed doomed. But whenever there were problems, and there were many, the vendor and I sorted them out between ourselves — no middleman involved.

To my astonishment, it made life so much easier. Removing the third party also cuts out much of the scope for misunderstanding and distrust.

Perhaps we were lucky. Throughout our transaction, there was never anything other than good will on both sides. There were differences. We wanted a quick completion, they wanted a lengthy one. We wanted them to leave the white goods, they wanted to take them. But at each point of potential conflict, common ground was sought and found.

In part, the very reason we were able to achieve such harmony was the fact that no agents were involved. With agents always sniffing around for extra commission, the threat of gazumping never goes away.

After six hectic and often heart-stopping weeks of negotiation, the deal was done. A month and a half later — nearly five months after we said goodbye to our flat — we were moving in. The local agents had missed out on a five-figure commission.

Tough. We had our house.

Not all agents are bad, of course. The ones who sold our flat had been models of professionalism. But after all the chinless Charlies and ruthless Ruperts we had had to put up with, I knew that this was the exception.

Far be it from me to put the GTi-driving class out of a job. But if thousands of other fed-up home-buyers are not going to follow the route we took, agents are going to have to wise up.

For your company golf day...

...it's the business

The Times MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge is open to any company, organisation, partnership, association or body (not golf society) based in the British Isles, which holds a business or company golf day in which 12 or more amateur players take part.

1 How to participate

1. Hold a golf day involving at least 12 players and play under the Stableford scoring system.
2. Complete and send the form, together with the registration fee of £150 plus VAT as soon as possible, prior to your golf day and no later than 21st September 1997.*
3. After your golf day, simply submit the results of your top scoring golfers, (with official club handicaps) one of whom must be an employee of the registering company.

* Golf days registered after 8th September or played after 31st September will be entered for the 1998 Challenge

2 Benefits of Entry

- Your golf day featured in The Times 'forthcoming golf days' fixture list.
- Your golf day results featured in The Times 'golf day results' column.
- A set of four personalised event trophies for your golf day winners.
- 25 Copies of The Times delivered to the golf club on the morning of your golf day.
- A golf day management software program for use on your golf day.
- Complimentary copy of the Official event magazine - The Business Golfer.
- Three months' free subscription to Golf World magazine.
- If the combined Stableford score, (played or adjusted to 3/4 handicap), of the four leading players is among the top 25 scores in your respective region, they will qualify as a team to play in one of the fourteen Regional Finals in October 1997.
- The winning company from each of the fourteen Regional Finals will compete in the National Final at Hyatt La Manga Club Resort in Spain in November 1997, to be filmed for a Sky TV broadcast.
- The winners of the National Final will be invited to participate in the World Corporate Golf Challenge.

3 Rules and Conditions

A full set of rules and conditions will be sent with acknowledgement of receipt of registration or you may obtain a copy by calling the Challenge office (details below) or by Faxback on 0660 600 664 (calls cost 49p per minute). The competition is approved by the R & A for payment of expences 'Rule 1-8 Exc. 7RA/64/97'

4 Further Information

Call the Challenge office on
0171 405 7273 or
0141 221 2225 (Scotland).
or you can access the Internet site on
http://www.golftoday.co.uk/timescorpgolf/

Company Registration

Company name
Name of Company Representative
Position
Company Address
Post Code
Telephone No
Facsimile
Will be holding a golf day at
Address
County
on

Trophy Requirements

Date of Golf Day 1997
Company Name (Maximum 30 letters)
Name of Golf Club (Maximum 30 letters)

Signed
Date

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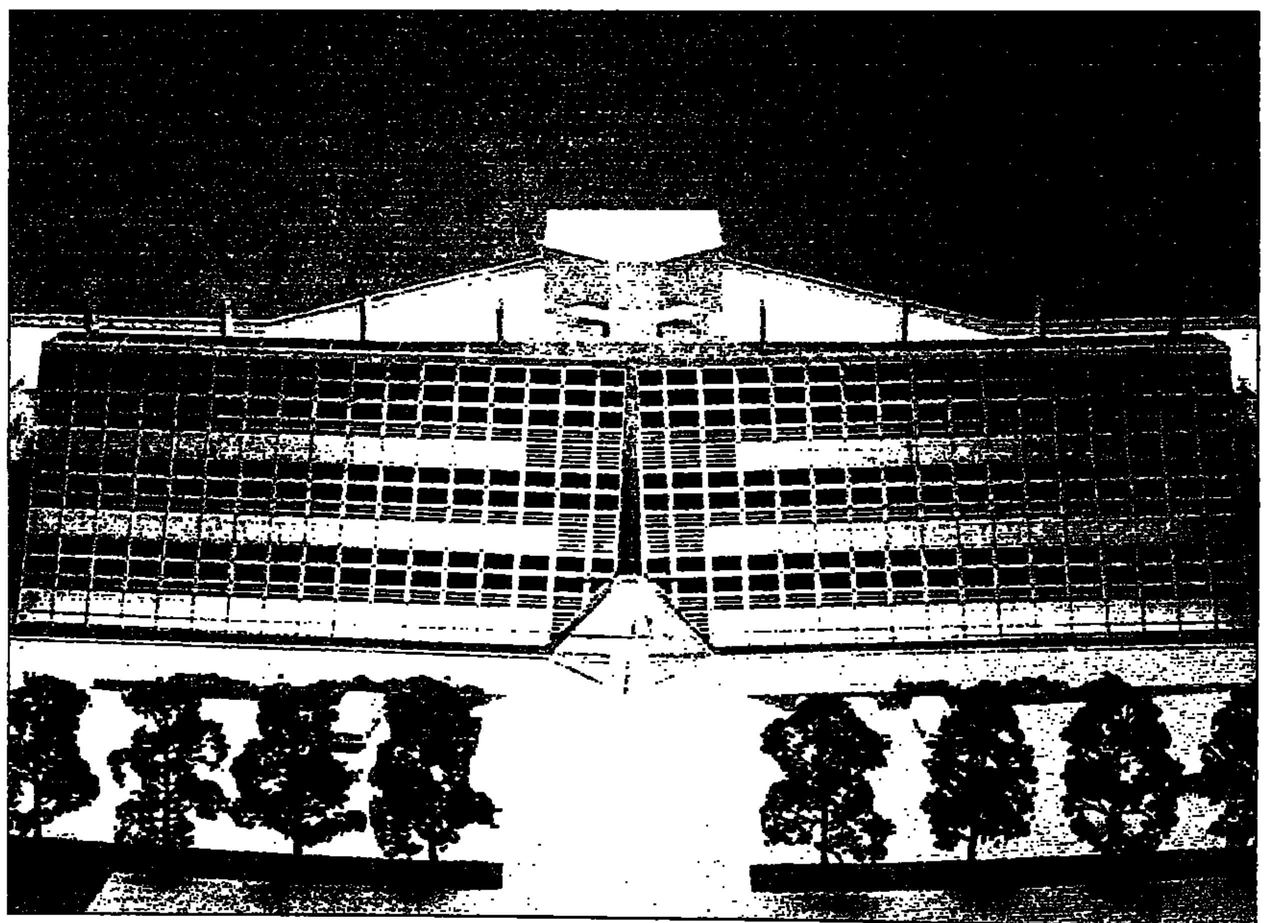

The massive block in Tyne and Wear, which uses 700 sq m of photovoltaic cells to harness the sun's rays

Northern sun will warm the super green office

Eve-Ann Prentice on what will be probably the biggest solar-heated office block in the world

As Britain makes the best of the sunshine after the wettest June for 137 years, developers are building what is said to be the largest solar-powered office block of its kind in the world.

And it is not on the south coast with its warm climate but in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear. The £5 million building is due to be finished next spring and the developers are hoping to lure healthcare companies, environmental companies or high-profile firms to lease space.

The Y-shaped building, at Doxford business park, will consist of three main parts: workspace, an atrium leading to a solar chimney, and a glazed carapace encasing the 700 sq m of photovoltaic cells, which will convert the sun's rays to electric power.

Mark Glatman, founder of Akeler Developments, which is building the 37,700 sq ft building, says: "We get a very good amount of sunlight in this area. The solar panels perform better here than in some parts of the Mediterranean, such as Greece." The Met Office in London says sunshine a year on average, or 30 per cent of the sunshine possible in the daylight hours available. The region gets a mere 35 hours of sun in December and 179 in May — Tyneside's sunniest month.

The building will cost £1.5 million more than a traditional office building, but this amount has been provided in a grant from the European Development Fund, with Akeler paying the remaining £3.6 million. Companies that lease office space at about £13 a square foot — the going rate for the Doxford business park — can, however, expect to make immediate savings in energy costs of up to 70 per

"There will be generous rent-free periods, regional assistance and companies could get DTI help," Mr Glatman says.

The heart of the building contains the tetrahedron-shaped atrium, which leads to the solar chimney. Warm air is drawn out of the building in summer, but is reclaimed and used to help to heat it in winter. The photovoltaic cells can produce enough energy to run 300 personal computers and enough energy will be generated each year — 55,000 kWh — to run the equivalent of 16 medium-size homes. In short, solar power will provide up to a third of the building's energy needs.

CORRECTION

- The estate agent handling the sale of the penthouse that belonged to the late Sir Laurens van der Post (Homes, July 30) is John D. Wood of Chelsea Green, London SW3 3QS; telephone 0171-352 1484.

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0171 481 4000 (PRIVATE)

PROPERTY

FAX:
0171 782 7828(TRADE)
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BAKER STREET, NW1, Desirable 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom flat in prime portered blk nr Regents Park. Must sell. £269,995. Sandfords 0171 723 9988

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BROOK GREEN, Windsor Way, W14. 4 storey hse 4 bed, recep, dining rm, kit/breakfast rm, 3 baths, cloakroom, parking space. £465k. 0181 [illegible]

CAMDEN LOCK, NW1. Stunning 2 bed apt in Gilbey hse. 40' terr. £285,000. S&K 0171 267 2053

CHISWICK Exceptional 1 bed gdn flat, pine/tiled flrs, orig features, conservatory area, gd storage, priv patio gdn 3 mins T Grn tube, close High Rd. £142,000. 0181 995 2606.

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[illegible] Rd, Brook Green, lge Vic. hse situated in a popular st. close to Brook Green. Accom comprises of dble recep, kit/breakfast rm, cellar, 4 beds, 2 baths, 48' Sth facing gdn & ... £445,000 F/H. 0171 603 1384.

GLOUCESTER ST SW1, top floor 3 bed maison, 1 recep, kitchen/breakfast room, 2 baths, 1 E/S, new dev, porter, U/Parking, 999 yr lse, £295,000 0958 [illegible]

HENDON NW4. A superb 3 bedroom bungalow with swimming pool, two receptions 23'6 x 13'2 & 21'6 x 10'6, bathroom, two en-suite shower rooms. 129' garden, garage. £469,000. Please contact [illegible] 0181 202 2155.

KENTISH TOWN, NW5. Stylish Vict. hse, 5/6 beds, rec. din, kit/din, beautiful 55' gdn. £345,000. S&K 0171 267 2053

MAIDA VALE, Investment 2 bed flat, prestigious port block, 5th flr + lift. 40 year lse. £130,000. Tenanted 0171 371 1707

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MARYLEBONE HIGH ST 3 bed flat, p/b blk, top floor, lift, £215k. [illegible] Homes 0171 724 9919

PRIMROSE HILL NW3 Contemporary designer garden studio flat featured in Sunday Times Style section. Sunny quiet decked garden, stainless steel FF kitchen, bleached wood floors. £115,000. Tel: 0171 483 4201

STANHOPE TERRACE W2 2 bed apart with own street entrance & parking. 54 years. £210,000 Horne & Sons 0171 499 9344

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

BATTERSEA Queenstown Road. Superb newly mod 2 d. bed flat, roof terrace. £129,000. 01747 871883/ mob. 0705 0011730.

BRIXTON SW2, Edwardian family hse in secluded popular location, with lge gdn. original tiled entrance hall, cornicing & fireplaces, improvements made recep, kit/diner, 5 beds, 2 baths, cellar. £226,000 F/H Roy Brooks 0181 299 3021.

CLAPHAM 4 bed hse in quiet road off Abbeville Rd. 2 recep rms, lge kit/b'fast rm, 3 baths (2 en/s). Mature 45ft gdn. Very gd decorative order. £340,000 No agents. 0171 720 3932

SW18 £320,000 NO CHAIN Hitech contemporary house having been the focus of very stylish and imaginative refurb. Sought after location. 4 dble beds. 3 baths. 2 rec. gdn. gge. etc. Internal inspection a must! 0181 780 5660.

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BLOOMSBURY WC1. Totally renovated one bed 3rd (top) flr flat admidst local shopping of Russell Sq, Kings Cross and Euston. 86 yrs. £135,000. Frank Harris & Co 0171 387 0077.

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DOUGHTY STREET WC1. Stunningly refurb two bed flat in Bloomsbury Georgian town house nr Inns of Court, City and West End. 96 yrs. £215,000. Frank Harris & Co 0171 387 0077.

JERMYN STREET St James's studio flt, CH, all mod cons L/H 89 yrs £120k 0171 2231878

NOTTINGHAM PLACE W1, new conversion of 2/3 Bedroom Appt, on 1st, 2nd & 3rd Flr. Long lse. From £210K. Wallaway Estates 0171 224 0959.

W1 Fitzroy St, 2 B/R flats for sale. Prices from £250,000, or/and for rental, prices from £400pw. [illegible] 0171 287 1118

W1 Selection of studios and one bedroom appts, short lease from 80K to 140K. Wallaway Estates 0171 224 0959.

WAREHOUSE CONVERSION
luxury, spacious, 2 double beds, 2 bath warehouse conversion (1,350 sq ft). South facing, 3rd floor flat, recently renovated throughout with wooden flooring new kitchen and bathrooms. 24 hr security. Allocated underground parking. 5 minutes from City.
£227,500.
Telephone 0171 4883639

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BLOOMSBURY WC1
1 bed flat, access to garden, comm roof terrace, kitchen, recep, close tube. £99,950 STC.
FITZROVIA W1
2 studio flats in purpose built blk, porter, comm gdns. £112,500 - £115,000 STC.
FITZROVIA W1
1 bed, fitted kit, lift, 3rd floor, long lease £135,000 STC.
FITZROVIA W1
2 dble bed top floor flat, 22' recep. 2 bath, large roof terr. L/H £209,950 STC.
COVENT GARDEN WC2
2 bed, large recep, long lease, new mod. fully fitted kitchen £305,000 STC.
BLOOMSBURY WC1
3 bed duplex, 2 receps, roof terr, lift, porter, U/G park. £350,000 STC.
0171 240 3322

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TOBACCO DOCK 2 bedroom apartment with south facing balcony, part wooden floors, parking. £132,000 Leasehold. 0171 480 6815.

WAPPING 2 bedroom Warehouse conversion, allocated parking. Gas heating. £155,000 Leasehold. 0171 480 6815.

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01235 851494

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DULWICH Well presented 2 bed hse, 2 rec rms, enclosed rear gdn. £109,950. 0181 693 3456.

FULHAM

CLONMELL ROAD, SW6. 4 bed period house with side conserv. 18ft kit/diner, study, 2 baths. £515,000 F/H. 0171 736 6406

FULHAM BORDERS Semi-mod 2/3 bed hse. Huge kit/din, 2 recep, 35ft gdn. Rep £189k. Quick sale Squire Rd. 0171 381 3653

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PARSONS GREEN Spacious 3 bed maisonette. Reception 16 ft x 13 ft kitchen/breakfast room, southerly flat roof, own street entrance, close tube. £225,000 Vanstone 0171 736 9822

PARSONS GREEN, SW6. 1 bedroom in good order with balcony on raised ground floor. £129,950 L/H. 0171 736 6406

FULHAM. S.W.6
Immaculately presented elegant three storey Victorian house situated in sought-after street off Fulham Road.
3-4 double bedrms, 2 bathrooms, study, large 1st floor drawing room, spacious kitchen/diner, laundry room, cellar, garden.
Price Guide £400,000
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Mobile: 0378 634273

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Stunning Interior designs, newly refurbished 2 bed flat, set within quiet residential road, private 45 ft south facing garden, 2 cast iron feature fireplaces, solid wood flooring, fully integrated kitchen with all appliances, large beautifully designed bedrooms, new 125 year lease, low outgoings ready for immediate occupation, private sale.
£2[illegible]
[illegible]

HIGHBURY/ ISLINGTON

WC1
Quick sale, £400,000 ono
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Upper 3 floors: 4 bedrooms, 1 bath + WC, lounge, dining room, kitchen, original working fireplaces, patio verandah.
Below ground flat:
2 rooms (big bay window), bathroom, kitchen.
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FOR SALE
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KENSINGTON Charming 2 bed flat in prestigious building £215,000. 0171 221 9044.

KENSINGTON Stylish int. designed 2 bed, 2 bath, apt, £425,000. 0171 385 4131.

SW10
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Superbly decorated and maintained period freehold house. 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 recep, FF kitchen/breakfast room, utility, large West facing terrace. Wooden floors & shutters. Quiet street.
£575,000.
01386 701108

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

CADOGAN PLACE SW1
split level penthouse apt, recep room, dining room, kitchen, 4/5 beds, 3 baths, shwr rm, cloakroom, terrace, underground parking, porter. 91 yr lse, OIRO, £1.6M
Telephone
0171 225 2630

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Tuckerman
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CORNWALL

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01253 22225.

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CHELSEA HARBOUR, 2 Bedroom, 2 bath, lux flat, sec park, video entry £390pw 0976 421685

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CHISWICK, W4 Modern spacious townhouse. 5 bed, 3 baths, unfurn, parking, garden. £550pw. 0171 379 4816

CITY/EC1 Immac spacious 1 bed flat. F/furn. Pkg. Balc. Porter. Nr tube. £300 pw. 0171 379 4816

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COLLINGHAM GDNS, SW5. Dble rec 3 bed 2 bath, terr. £500pw. Geo Joslin 0171 352 3746

COURTFIELD GARDENS SW5, Immac newly dec throughout, sunny 3rd flr, 3 bed, 2 bath, v lge recep, suit prof couple, UF, £535pw. Tel: 0171 603 3605

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COVENT GDN 2 min.New lux lge 2 bd 2 bth ff pkg nr Tube. £425 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

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SW1
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PORTLAND PLACE Spacious 2 bed 2 bath, ung pkg £480pw Exec Homes 0171 724 9919

SLOANE SQ. Area SW1, charming, well eqpt mews hse + garage, dble recep, study, 3 bedrms, 2 baths, long let, £575pw. 0171 386 5900 or 01892 890396.

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SW5 Charming 4th flr spac Mansion flat with comm gdns. Lge Drawing/Dining rm, kit. 4 beds, 1 bath 1 shwr, lift, port. Unfurn at £550pw. Tel. 0171 373 0033

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SW1 Superb 2/3 bd mews hse adj to Green Park, with parking. £550pw. 0171 493 3993

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WEATHERBY MEWS, SW5 New 3 bed unfurn hse in quiet side mews. Lge kit, 2 bths gge, £535pw 0171 379 4816.

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WESTMINSTER Stunning Lux 1 & 2 bed apts, some with terraces, in prestigious new development, porter, u/g pkg, F/F & U/F. £300-650pw. 0171 512 2121

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RESORT NAME	AREA	MONTH	No. OF WEEKS	SEASON	SLEEPS	PRICE PER WEEK £
Kilconquhar Castle	Scotland	Nov	1	Mid	6	2150
Moness Country Club	Scotland	August	1	High	4	4250
Kenmore Club	Scotland	Sept/Oct	2	High	6	4850
Barratt Forest Hills	Scotland	March	1	High	6	1695
Barratt Loch Rannoch	Scotland	February	1	High	6	1795
Barratt Lochanhully	Scotland	Sept	2	High	6	1795
Barratt Dalfaber	Scotland	October	1	High	6	2250
Porsonachan Club	Scotland	May	1	High	6	3250
Moness Country Club	Scotland	August	1	High	6	3350
Stakis Craigendarroch	Scotland	March	2	High	6	4450
Stakis Coylumbridge	Scotland	April	1	High	6	4250
Anfi Beach Club	Gran Canaria	October	1	High	4	2250
Club Tenerife	Tenerife	Oct/Nov	3	High	4	995
Diamond Las Calas 2	Lanzarote	Feb/Nov	3	High	4	895
Lanzarote Beach Club	Lanzarote	Aug/Sep	2	High	6	1695
Club Flamingo Village	Tenerife	April	1	High	4	1395
Club Olympus	Tenerife	May	1	High	4	1295
Canary Islands Hol Club	Tenerife	Feb	1	High	6	1195
Palm Beach Club	Tenerife	Nov	1	High	4	795
Tenerife Sun Club	Tenerife	Feb	1	High	4	795
Club Rivera Caronte	Costa Del Sol	May	1	High	6	995
CPV At Lubina Sol	Costa Del Sol	Jun/Xms	3	High	4/6	995
Barratt Dona Lola	Costa Del Sol	May	1	High	4	1950
Barratt Leila Playa	Costa Del Sol	April	1	High	4	1950
Barratt Villacana	Costa Del Sol	Apr/May	2	High	8	2595
Wimpey Bena Vista	Costa Del Sol	Nov	2	High	8	2750
Global Sahara Sunset	Costa Del Sol	Nov	2	High	6	2450
Los Amigos Beach Club	Costa Del Sol	Float	2	High	6	2250
Four Seasons Marbella	Costa Del Sol	Orange	2	High	8	4950
Royal Oasis La Quinta	Costa Del Sol	Float	1	High	4	1950
Miraflores Beach Club	Costa Del Sol	April	2	High	4	2250
Four Seasons Marbella	Costa Del Sol	Orange	2	High	4	2400
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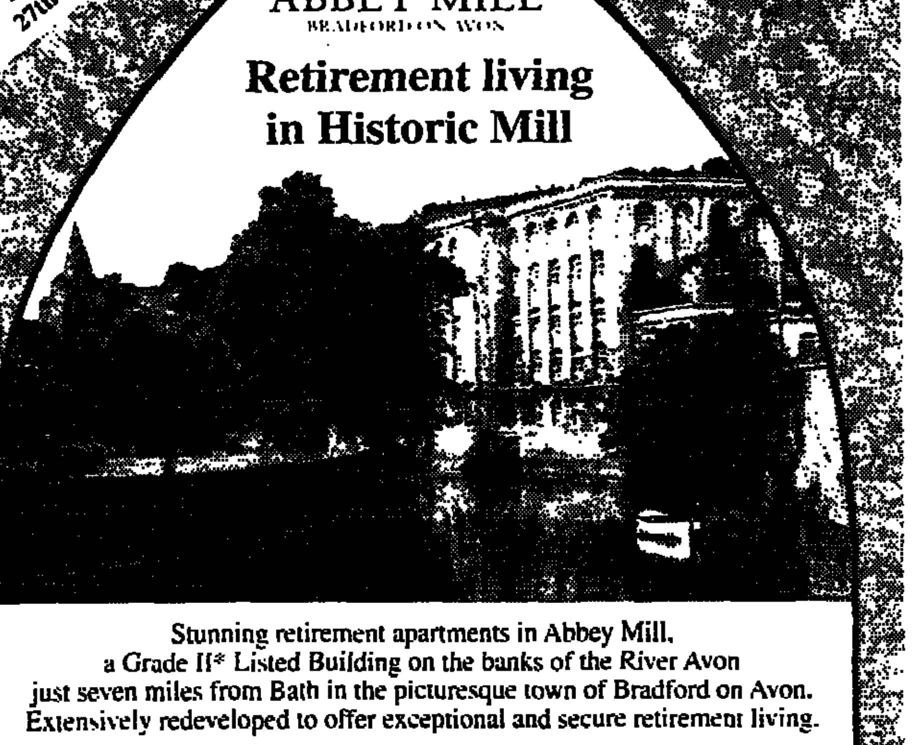

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LONDON

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A market leader in its field Robert Walters Associates is a publicly quoted recruitment consultancy employing in excess of 270 staff with offices in the UK, USA, Continental Europe, Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand. Our success to date has been characterised by a *can do* attitude towards our impressive blue-chip client base, a reputation for the quality of our service and a high calibre of consultancy staff.

The continuing expansion of our global operations and the relocation abroad of the incumbent have created the need for two assistants to work closely with the Director of Global IT & Contract Teams and the Head of Operations respectively.

Successful candidates will possess:

- a minimum of five years experience at Director level
- advanced Microsoft skills
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- a sharp intellect combining the ability to juggle; and
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If your strengths are in people management and organisation, or numeracy and spreadsheets, you could be ideal for either position. However accuracy and attention to detail apply to both.

We would be particularly interested in hearing from individuals with experience of a dealing room environment, banking or another fast-paced commercial organisation.

In return we can provide a rewarding challenge with a pioneering company and the opportunity to develop a career within the second fastest growing industry in the world.

Interested applicants should submit a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae to **Robyn Saunders** at **Robert Walters Associates, 25 Bedford Street, London WC2E 9HP**, or fax **0171 304 4131**. For an informal discussion you can contact her on telephone **0171 379 3333**. E-mail: **robyn.saunders@robertwalters.com**

ROBERT WALTERS ASSOCIATES

http://www.robertwalters.com

FS30091

LONDON WINDSOR AMSTERDAM BRUSSELS NEW YORK HONG KONG SYDNEY WELLINGTON AUCKLAND

Pringle OF SCOTLAND

PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Pringle of Scotland, the prestigious knitwear company, is seeking a high calibre candidate for this position. Based in our London office, you would also be required to act as Office Manager.

Using your excellent organisational skills, your responbility will include diary management, organising meetings, drafting correspondence and arranging travel.

You will be confident and assertive with a high level of initiative and a mature outlook. In addition, you will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to deal with confidential matters.

The role will demand fast, accurate shorthand and keyboard skills (Amipro).

In return we can offer a salary in the region of £20-24K together with contributory pension scheme and 25 days holiday.

Please send your cv and covering letter to Lynn Clark, Pringle of Scotland Ltd, 12a Saville Row, London W1X 2LX.

VERSATILE PA TO OWNER/DIRECTOR

VICTORIA c£30,000+ package
(inc. overtime & bonus)

The business interests include a growing restaurant company, and an international project/financial advisory business, with a small- 6 person-head office team.

The position combines a variety of tasks, e.g. heavy and sophisticated word processing and presentations, dealing with different cultures, shifting priorities, the full range of PA functions, and office organisation and filing. There is pressure, tight deadlines, a 47 hour week plus some late evening and weekend work.

You must be an experienced PA with first class MS Win95/W4W 6 and shorthand skills (60/100), A levels, highly computer literate with Powerpoint/DTP skills, and relevant large and small company experience. You should be well organised, calm, and a team player with energy, commitment and flexibility.

If you can meet all these requirements please fax letter demonstrating this, and full CV including present salary, to Mr. R. Mathrani, Vanguard Capital on 0171 584 8595

BAA Heathrow

Secretary to the Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee

£19,000 - £21,000

Are you a Committee Secretary looking for a new challenge?

Heathrow is the world's busiest international airport. The Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee (HACC) and its sub groups are responsible for overseeing its operation and ensuring that the airport operator, BAA Heathrow, manages the airport responsibly and efficiently.

Serving the needs of the HACC and other Heathrow Consultative bodies, you will be an experienced Committee secretary with excellent organisational and office skills. Good minute taking is essential along with strong oral and written communications skills. You will be comfortable dealing with senior people in a wide range of organisations. Knowledge of the aviation industry is desirable, but not essential.

If you think you've got what it takes to fulfil this challenge, send your CV with covering letter to:

Mark Phillips
Community Relations Manager
BAA Heathrow
234 Bath Road
Harlington
UB3 5AP

Closing date for applications 22 August 1997

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In addition to providing secretarial assistance to one of the senior partners, you will ensure that smooth running of the offices

You will have excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to deal with confidential matters in a tactful, discreet and diplomatic manner.

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You will provide secretarial support to the swedish partner. Some German preferred and Russian also helpful.

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A good all rounder willing to undertake a variety of general offices duties. You will haqve a professional telephone manner and enthusiastic disposition.

REQUIREMENTS

US/UK Law Firm Experience
Strong IT skills (MS Office)
Good Communication skills
Be flexible and highly motivated

The Human resources department, 4th Floor, 68 Pall Mall, LONDON, SW1Y 5FS.

MORI

C£19K + benefits

Secretaries/Admin Assistants

We are seeking two proactive computer literate secretaries/admin assistants to provide comprehensive support for four of our Directors. These are two separate roles, one involved in the area of Social research and the other in Marketing and Consumer Research. Excellent administrative and organisational skills, and the ability to work well under pressure are essential.

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We are looking for an experienced secretary who is computer literate, with strong personnel, administrative and secretarial skills, to provide support to our Personnel Director. Knowledge of spreadsheets and database management is essential. *This is a busy and interesting role, with plenty of* scope for development.

MORI is an equal opportunities employer and a non-smoking company.

All these roles require a knowledge of Microsoft Office and are based in Southwark.

Please write with your CV to Rosie Packer, MORI, 95 Southwark Street, London, SE1 0HX, or e-mail rosiepacker@mori.com.

GREYTHORN

Banking Secretaries £27,000 Package

Superb opportunities within this Bank for a number of proactive secretaries, who will thrive in a young and team spirited environment. These roles are varied and demanding and therefore the ideal candidates should have a minimum of 3-5 years banking experience, with the ability to cope well under pressure, be happy to work long hours (all paid) and be calm, *confident and unflappable.* Essential skills: Advanced Word, Excel and Powerpoint or Freelance.

TEMP APPLICATIONS ALSO REQUIRED TO £15 PER HOUR - IMMEDIATE START

Phone 0171 831 9999 / Fax 0171 [illegible]
6 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2DA
E-Mail [illegible] Web [illegible]

GREYTHORN

The Difference is *You*

Whether you are a potential candidate, employee or client, it is *YOU* that makes us unique. We are searching self-assured experienced and professional recruitment consultants with the ability to recruit at a senior level within an exciting new area. A flair for developing relationships and identifying opportunities will be essential. To find out how you can contribute to our success and, how we can contribute to yours please call us or send/email us your details in strictest confidence.

Phone 0171 831 9999 / Fax 0171 [illegible]
4 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2DA
E-Mail [illegible] Web [illegible]

Instead of working your way to the top, why not start there?

Assistant to Chief Exec.

c. £20K +

We could have called this a job for a PA. But that would have given the wrong impression about the job itself and the kind of people we believe are best equipped to do it.

Certainly, we're looking for someone who can be a real right hand to the Chief Executive of one of the world's great pharmaceutical companies – a company that's active in everything from transplants to asthma, from Alzheimer's disease to cardiovascular drugs.

But, while excellent keyboard and graphics skills (including Microsoft Office) are a basic qualification, we're not necessarily looking for someone who has worked their way up through the traditional secretarial ranks. What we really need is someone who is highly intelligent, articulate and confident dealing with all kinds of people, who's organised and focused in their approach to work, and who's more than capable of handling not only day-to-day admin to help our Chief Exec work to maximum effectiveness, but also a range of ad hoc business assignments. As a European company with group offices in Basle, knowledge of either French or German would also be extremely useful.

So the question is, what kind of person could offer those kinds of skills? One answer could well be a recent graduate who's looking for an unconventional start to a business career, and who could handle the challenge of going straight into the heart of a big, sophisticated, successful enterprise. And, of course, another answer could be a highly experienced, extraordinarily capable PA.

Either way, we've a lot to offer you even beyond the obvious challenges and attractions of the job itself. You'd get five weeks holiday just to start with, a pension scheme, the option of private healthcare.

Wherever you're coming from, this job gives you the chance to get straight to where you want to be – the top. Send your c.v. *with a covering letter to Sue Taunton, HR Executive,* Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd, Frimley Business Park, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey GU16 5SG.

NOVARTIS

Bracknell, UK
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German French

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Please apply in writing with CV and salary history, to Nicholas Edger, Rosenstiel's, 33-35 Markham Street, Chelsea Green, London, SW3 3NR.

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SHORTHAND PA

Required for Television company to provide an effective secretarial service to the Chairman. High proportion of administration, maintaining diary and personnel management. Good organisational *skills, shorthand* (100 wpm) and knowledge of MS work is essential. (20K+). Please send CV to Jo Martin, SVC Television Ltd, 142 Wardour Street, London W1V 3AU.

Grosvenor Street based Surveyors require experienced Partner's secretary/administrator.

Knowledge of W4W 6.0, WP 5.1 and Excel essential.

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For further details please contact
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ON 0171 588 5888

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The London Office of a leading Dutch law firm currently in the West End need an experienced administrator/secretary.

It is essential that applicants are confident in their language skills as there is a high level of English and Dutch correspondence on a daily basis. Accurate and fast WP skills *are imperative together with the ability to work under pressure.* Previous experience in a professional services environment is required. Salary negotiable.

Please contact Pieter Riemer
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Strictly no agencies

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PA TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Salary £19,250 Regent's Park, London

The Prince's Youth Business Trust helps 18-30 year olds who are unemployed, under employed or of limited means, to set up their own business by providing finance, on-going business advice and marketing opportunities. The Chief Executive's office provides strategic support to the Trust's operations in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and liaises closely with the other members of The Prince's Trust.

You will play a key role in ensuring that the Chief Executive can operate with maximum efficiency within a wide network of contacts inside and outside the organisation. We are looking for someone with superlative skills and at least two years' experience of providing secretarial and administrative support at a senior level, including servicing meetings, making travel arrangements and organising diaries.

You will need excellent communication and interpersonal skills, tact, initiative and the ability to manage and prioritise a wide variety of tasks.

For an application pack write to Louise Farrow, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, 18 Park Square East, London NW1 4LH (Fax 0171 543 1342/ *E-mail louisefa@princes-trust.org.uk). CVs will* not be accepted. Closing date for completed application forms 18th August 1997. Interviews to be held on 27th August 1997.

The Prince's Youth Business Trust aims to be an equal opportunities employer.

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Under the boss's wing

Joan Llewelyn Owens sees how the rise in mentoring schemes for secretaries is helping to boost their status

ROBIN MAYES

Pooling their skills: PAs Pamela Ollerhead and Jacqui Dove have benefited from being both mentor and mentee

Part of Christine Gibbons' role as administrative and clerical consultant to the Southampton Community Health Service NHS Trust is to act as a mentor. "I have mentored three secretaries over the last 12 months," she says, "and others on an ad hoc basis whenever a more objective view is needed."

"Mentoring for secretaries is increasing," says Freda Gardiner, who chairs the Secretarial Development Network. "It is particularly useful when a new secretary joins an organisation.

"If you don't know anyone except your immediate boss you can feel very lost. With an experienced secretary to turn to, life is much easier. Also, existing staff can learn a lot by teaching and mentoring."

One of the latest organisations to start a mentoring scheme is the University of Bristol. Kerstin Mussell, staff development adviser, says they have no set career structure for secretaries and no system of appraisal.

Some of the secretaries working for academics who are out of their offices a great deal, are very isolated. "We felt mentoring by other secretaries would help them to clarify their ideas and offer them a way to talk about the problems which might be causing stress."

The Industrial Society publication *Managing Best Practice — Mentoring* states: "At its broadest, mentoring is a confidential, one-to-one relationship in which an individual uses a more experienced, usually more senior person, as a sounding board and for guidance."

Marjory Mair of the Industrial Society, feels strongly that senior secretaries should be mentoring juniors, harnessing their potential and helping to raise the professional profile of secretaries.

She believes, along with Carol Burnett, PA to the managing director of Allied Bakeries, that some colleges omit to teach secretarial students how to handle certain situations, possibly because the tutors may not have worked in an office for some time. Experienced mentors can help to remedy this.

The mentoring system introduced by Ms Burnett is informal. She came to it after monthly meetings with her secretaries, where she found they spent most of the time moaning.

"When they said they wanted to become more involved in their jobs, Ms Burnett told them they must display interest, ask their bosses how meetings have gone and what decisions have been made — in fact, ask if they can attend meetings themselves. But they said they wouldn't know how to go about it.

Since then, Ms Burnett has made a point of sitting down with other secretaries as and when required. She has encouraged them to put pressure on their bosses to include them in meetings. "When managers are reluctant to do this," she says, "I have given them a nudge and said, 'It is part of the girl's progression. She has to have her career path, just as you have yours.' "

Ms Burnett watches over newcomers, and gives tips on how to organise their offices. She advises on their career path and makes sure they have one, because she prefers to promote from existing staff rather than appoint people from outside.

"The key to good mentoring," she says, "is to be seen to be interested in others, their problems and their progress. You have to be a good listerier, and you must not patronise." Mentors must also be able to put the sort of questions which encourage people to talk and to think for themselves.

Mentoring is not confined to secretaries. At De Loitte Consulting, every new recruit, regardless of grade or area of work, is allocated a mentor. After the first three months, the newcomer is welcome to choose another mentor.

"It gives people very quick insight into how a firm's organisation and hierarchy work and is very good for settling someone in a new job," says Caroline Maudling who set up the system.

Pamela Ollerhead, PA to John Everett, managing partner at De Loitte's, has been both a mentee and a mentor. She was mentored by the human relations manager and later she mentored a trainee consultant. "I was on the list of people willing to be mentors to new recruits and was picked possibly because I was involved in high-level meetings and knew quite a lot about the structure of the company. The benefit for the PA is that you get a different perspective."

Senior staff are making office life easier for the new recruits

Her colleague, Jacqui Dove, secretary to the senior partner in one of De Loitte's consulting groups, chose a senior manager as her mentor. "I chose someone who knew the organisation well and could think things through clearly. It is a non-threatening environment because he is not someone I report to and it is totally confidential.

"It is a rule here that we don't have as a mentor anyone who can influence our progress through the firm. It is good to have someone who can spare the time to have a chat to you."

And that is essential. Mentors are impartial advisers, who don't necessarily come up with the answer to a problem, but help their charges to work it out for themselves.

JAPANESE SPEAKING PA
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This international, high profile organisation is looking for ambitious PA/secretaries in their new, expanding divisions. Each role requires someone confident with excellent communication skills to deal competently with clients at all levels. Progression and training opportunities within these sociable and involving teams are freely available.

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Are you that helpful, smiley person with that 'can do' mentality who'll step in and sort out things straight away? This small team, with their exciting international business, need you to join them and do just that! Answering phones, managing diaries, making dinner reservations, welcoming clients, ad hoc project work - lots to do, and a very nice bunch of people to work with! You won't need ANY office skills - typing would helpful but it's ok if you don't - the only requirement is a fab, outgoing nature and a mature attitude. They'll be so pleased to have you join them, so call us today and start next week!

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 5260

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No experience necessary
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This smart friendly company, based in leafy Kensington (next to some great shops & bars!) are looking for a charming, well-spoken Secretary to work for their young team. You don't need ANY office experience at all - just a keen, confident, bubbly personality. You do need to type accurately - 40wpm will be fine, as there's lots of admin and organising too. If meeting people every day and taking on responsibilities and becoming an essential team member sounds good, then don't hold back. Stop waiting for the sun to come out to top up that tan - start making things happen for your career and call us now!

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
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The Lap of Luxury
£17,500 + pens, bonus, STL

Beautiful offices in St James's, a great one to one PA role (involving a lot of meeting & greeting clients) and nice civilised hours! This company, who have offices all over the world and work with high net worth individuals and wealthy organisations, are looking for someone to join them in this busy secretarial role. You must have 50wpm typing and be 21yrs+ with some solid work experience (about 6 mths) behind you. It's a young, social company so if you're looking for a lovely secretarial job with professional but fun people, call us now!

18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Facsimile: 0171 734 5260

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Are you a Secretary/PA that likes typing? If so - do you actually know what you're worth and how many jobs you can choose from?

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Smart, friendly organisation dealing in farms and large country estate sales and management. Small West End office with exclusive clients! £17,000

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NSR
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PA £24k+ bonus+gym
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FUN, FRANTIC, FINANCE
STOCKBROKING SECRETARY £17K + BENS
Do you enjoy the buzz of an open plan office and being part of a team? Plug into a 60% audio role where your proactive and flexible nature will be appreciated. Stacks of involvement awaits a team secretary with good working knowledge of Word for Windows and Excel.

JOIN THE TEAM WHO KNOW HOW IMPORTANT YOU ARE
Why sit at home waiting for your agency to call when you could be working for one of our prestigious City or West End clients and earn SERIOUS MONEY? Here is just a taster of current assignments we are looking to fill.

IMMEDIATE SHORTHAND ASSIGNMENTS (min 90 wpm)
- Director's PA – On-going
- Personnel Admin/Secretary – Temp to Perm
- Team Secretary – Sales Dept – 3 Weeks

IMMEDIATE AUDIO ASSIGNMENTS (min 50 wpm)
- Director's Secretary – Management Consultancy – 3 Weeks
- Team Secretary – Asset Management – 6 Months
- Junior Secretary – Executive Search – On-going

If you have excellent secretarial skills, a good working knowledge of Windows packages and are aged 18-40, call our Temporary Division NOW!

MORE P/T TEMP AND PERM POSITIONS AVAILABLE

PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT
TEL: 0171 734 8484
FAX: 0171 734 8501

HARRIET GABB RECRUITMENT LTD

PUBLISHING CO to £25K
P.A to M.D Middlesex
Tip top PA required for this expanding co. This is a one to one position that requires a calm level head, excellent organisational skills - you will be co-ordinating between authors and publishers as well as the day to day diary, travel arrangements and correspondence of this busy executive. You will be 'A' level educated, possess rusty shorthand (70 wpm). Benefits include BUPA, car allowance after 6 months (£2500).
Call: Anna Gillett for an immediate interview
[illegible]

SENIOR PA, £20-23,000 AAE.
Well known, upmarket retail success story offers varied role for super PA in their IT dept. Must have 50wpm and W4W. It exp advantageous.
Call Karin on
0171 636 1493

BEAVERS
Personnel Recruitment Consultants

LEGAL SECRETARY
£19,000pa - W2
Experienced legal secretary required to provide secretarial support in a demanding entertainment law office. 80% audio/copy typing. WP6.0 and MS Office, accurate 65wpm, good organisational skills, excellent telephone manner and willingness to work hard are all essential. Send current CV to:-
M Krais, Babbington & Bray Solicitors Limited,
42 Southwick street.
London.
W2 1JQ.

EXPOTEL HOTEL RESERVATIONS LIMITED
UK's largest hotel booking agency, employing over 300 staff, requires a
SECRETARY/PA
working for the Financial Director. The ideal candidate for this challenging role will possess excellent written and oral communication skills, have the ability to compose own correspondence and sound audio or shorthand.
Benefits include: BUPA Health Care
*Pension Scheme *Travel discounts
Please send CV and covering letter stating current salary to:
Mr K Shah, Expotel Hotel Reservations Limited, Kingsgate House, Kingsgate Place, London, NW6 4HG.

ENJOY A CHALLENGE
This is a demanding PA role-co-ordinating your Chairman's busy schedule and organising his travel. You have a high energy level, entrepreneurial flair and ideally fluent French and/or German. Minimal secretarial work. £22-£24,000 neg + generous bonuses.
Call 0171 493 7001
SECRETARIES PLUS

ACCOUNT MANAGER
C£18K + bens
For 1st Court Reporters (of OJ Simpson fame). Dealing with VIP accounts of Criminal Civil & major players of sporting events. A team player of Graduate ability, exc.communication skills both written & verbal, + Windows flair to provide and exc. service sustaining customer relations. Some Legal exp & driver an advantage for this unique and exciting position.
GALE ASSOCIATES REC CONS
0171 439 1188

SHORTHAND PA, £22,000.
Great 1-1 position at a deputy chairman level in this prestigious City based Co. All involving role. Fabulous offices. 90wpm s/hand, 60wpm typing. W4W ess.
Call Karin on
0171 636 1493

BEAVERS
Personnel Recruitment Consultants

THE CENTRE FOR TOMORROW'S COMPANY
PA/ADMIN ASSISTANT £19,000
RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY £12,000
We are looking for two real team players to help run a small but extremely busy office which helps to promote British businesses to compete with the World's best.
Both posts require excellent phone manner, literacy and diary/correspondence management through experience with Microsoft Word and Outlook and would suit applicants who enjoy a challenge and can work on their own initiative. For the PA/Admin position knowledge/interest of Sage (accounts), Excel, Access would be highly desirable.
Lots of opportunity for the right person.
PLEASE RESPOND BY 14th AUGUST 97
CTC is an equal opportunities employer.
The Centre for Tomorrow's Company, 19 Buckingham Street, LONDON, WC2N 6EF
Reg Charity No 1055808(no agencies)

CONFERENCE REGISTRAR
Required for part time post, possibly becoming full time, commencing October 1997 for a small conference organising company near Epsom, Surrey. Work includes budgeting and managing conference accounts and dealing with delegate registrations. Applicants must have accounting skills and experience and be fully conversant with Microsoft Excel or similar accountancy package.
Apply to: 0181 661 0877 between 5.00pm & 7.00pm weekdays.

GET INTO LEGAL
£25,000
Interesting, varied Shorthand secretarial role, working on a one to one basis for this leading U.S. Law firm, based in luxurious offices in a young dynamic environment. Skills 80/65. Corporate or legal background preferred.
Ryder Reid Associates, (agy)
150 Minories, London EC3N 1LS
Tel: 0171-264-2166 Fax: 0171-264-2140

COBY PHILIPS
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
SH/PA SECRETARY
£24K + FREE LUNCH, BUPA + CIRCA £3K BONUS
Based within plush offices of this long-established Investment Co in SW1. You will provide 1st Class Secretarial Assistance to 2 dynamic Directors + a busy Manager. This position will offer lots of opportunity to utilise your organisational skills, co-ordinating diaries + extensive travel arrangements. "Would suit a senior secretary who is not afraid of responsibility - min 80/60 wpm, W4W+ PowerPoint. Ideally aged 28-40.
For more details please call Nicola on
0171 287 6116 or fax your CV on 0171 287 6556.

CLEGG
KENNEDY
DREW
LAND AGENTS AND CHARTERED SURVEYORS

THE COUNTRY LIFE IN MAYFAIR
Up to £17,000
Hunting, shooting, fishing and country estates are all part of the job working for our Agency Director in a small friendly office. There is an opportunity to be as much an assistant as a secretary (not too much typing). You should be in your 20s with at least 2 years' experience, 50 wpm typing, well presented, organised, well spoken and privately educated.
Please apply in writing to:
Sophie Unwin, 19 Queen Street, Mayfair, London W1X 7PJ

CREME DE LA CREME

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS? EC4 £22,000+++

A French speaker with English shorthand, min 90 wpm, W4W, Powerpoint, Excel and a City background *is sought by boss & his team to be their 'Queen Bee'*. Lots of Admin & will eventually have own Admin Assistant. Daily contact with Paris so fluency in English & French vital. Lots of client contact, super colleagues + Bonus, Medical etc.

Call 0171 377 6777/Fax 377 5079. Quote 11094.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS RECRUITMENT LIMITED

OFFICE MANAGER/PA W1 to £22,000++

US Property Development & Investment Co need someone to support their European MD & run their Mayfair office with staff of 5. Extensive diary mgmt, travel arrangements, liaison with other offices, entertaining, bill paying etc. Will be lynchpin to team, be numerate + 50wpm on W4W, Excel, Database (Access), E-mail. Pension, Medical & bonus.

Call 0171 377 6777/Fax 377 5079. Quote 11230.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS RECRUITMENT LIMITED

PA TO CHAIRMAN SW1 to £23,000

1 to 1 role for Chairman of multi-interest business. This is a role for a traditional Secretary with excellent written & spoken English, smart presentation and very professional attitude, & content to work on their own 1/3rd of the time. Suit a self-sufficient PA who will appreciate fabulous surroundings in what is an unusual job. Lunch, medical, pension and season ticket given.

Call 0171 377 6777/Fax 377 5079. Quote 11251.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS RECRUITMENT LIMITED

BOSSY BOOTS SW1 c£19,000++

Disorganised boss who is untidy and has a bad memory needs a gem who will have their finger on the pulse at all times as his PA Sec. *Chance to get involved in research, some office management* with much client contact. Business and personal presentation tip top along with confidence in skills, Audio & min 65wpm typing on W4W, Excel, Powerpoint and Database (filefinder). Free lunch, medical and bonus.

Call 0171 377 6777/Fax 377 5079. Quote 11152.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS RECRUITMENT LIMITED

BATTERSEA - ADMINISTRATOR £18,000

Walk to work if you live near Clapham Junction and run office of successful consultancy that helps clients grow and develop their businesses. Suit admin orientated secretary with experience in marketing or customer service environment who is well educated-grad calibre & numerate.

Call 0171 377 6777/Fax 377 5079. Quote 11248.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS RECRUITMENT LIMITED

I presently have various excellent openings.

These are just a selection:

CORPORATE FINANCE PA	£30,000 Package
TEAM CORPORATE FINANCE SEC	£28,000 Package
FUND MANAGERS SECRETARY	£25,000 Package
CAPITAL MARKETS PA/SEC	£25,000 Package
BANKING LEGAL SECRETARY	£23,000 + MS + Bens
PERSONNEL SEC/ADMINISTRATOR	£20,000 + MS + Bens
TRADING FLOOR 1ST/2ND JOBBER	£17,000 + MS + Bens

Please contact Melinda Marks.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
Financial Recruitment Consultants
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 5259

JONATHAN WREN

OFFICE MANAGER

To £35,000 + Bens

This leading *Investment Bank is urgently seeking* an Officer Manager to co-ordinate the workload of a division of secretaries. This will incorporate carrying out appraisals, implementing induction programmes, interviewing candidates, running secretarial meetings and becoming a strong focal contact point. Supervisory experience essential as well as 'A' level education.

Please contact Philip Ayling.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
Financial Recruitment Consultants
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 5259

JONATHAN WREN

TRADING FLOOR SECRETARIES x 2

TEMP TO PERM £25k package

***6 MONTHS CONTRACT* £11.00 p.h. + o/t**

Two excellent opportunities for experienced banking secretaries with a US and European Bank. Candidates must have good MS Office, aged up to 35 yrs, available immediately, and have strong personalities capable of working in a very dynamic environment.

Please contact Dezna Berry.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
Financial Recruitment Consultants
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 5259

JONATHAN WREN

TEMP TO PERM

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR FOR US BANK £25-30K Package

The perfect position for an ambitious individual working for 2 Analysts within a major US Bank. Candidates should be aged between 25-35 years, with advanced knowledge of MS Office, typing speeds of at least 50 wpm, educated to at least A' Level standard, with a proven track record ideally within banking/finance.

Please contact Dezna Berry.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
Financial Recruitment Consultants
No 1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 5259

JONATHAN WREN

Administrator

The company: Prestigious Fund Management Company based in the West End.

The role: Extremely varied support role for a great organiser working in a team environment. Excellent opportunity to create and develop own role Suitable for a 2nd jobber or returner to work. Flexible on age.

The essentials: Computer literacy essential. 1 year's secretarial/clerical experience: good communication skills; team player.

to £18,000

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WEST END tel. 0171 494 4466 fax. 0171 494 4499
CITY tel. 0171 283 4664 fax. 0171 283 4994

The Expertise to Succeed?

Secretary to Chief Executive
Camden

A highly accomplished and experienced professional, you will have the confidence and expertise to excel in a key role with our client, a leading, well-renowned manufacturer.

Working closely with the Chief Executive and two Senior Executives, your activities will range from co-ordinating international travel arrangements to providing a first class secretarial service.

With good shorthand/keyboard speed, you will be experienced in the use of Lotus 123 and WordPerfect software packages. Well-organised and motivated, you will have excellent interpersonal skills which will enable you to deal successfully with people at all levels of a large international organisation.

In return for your commitment, you will be rewarded with the kind of competitive salary and benefits package which you would expect from a successful company.

Please write with full CV, quoting reference 707429, to Susan Atkinson, Account Manager, Riley Advertising (Nottingham) Ltd, Lopex House, Pelham Road, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham NG5 1AP. Please state any company to whom you do not wish your CV forwarded.

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PA's - De Luxe Offices

This highly regarded International firm of Management Consultants seeks a top quality **PA/Administrator** with all the skills to work as part of a *professional, friendly team in sumptuous offices in SW1.* You must be well presented, extremely accurate and conscientious, flexible in your attitude, punchy in character and not afraid of having to help out with the cooking and serving of occasional client lunches. £21,000 + bens.

Six months maternity leave contract to start mid September for leading Property Developers based in Central London for high calibre senior PA to MD. Excellent secretarial skills including shorthand are a must, you will also have an aptitude for organisation and co-ordination and be used to working to a very high standard at all times. Sumptuous, friendly offices in SW1. Rate £10/hour.

Please fax CV's to Martine Duyzings.

JFL
47 New Bond St, London W1Y 9HA
Tel: 0171-493 8824 Fax: 0171-493 7161
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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support IN design

The company: Dynamic, professional design company involved in creative packaging *and other corporate designs.*

The role: 2 positions: Studio Assistant & Project Administrator – admin and secretarial support for a team.

The essentials: Minimum 2 years secretarial/admin experience in creative company: 40 wpm typing: Mac or MS Word: bright, outgoing and flexible.

£17,500 to £18,000 – EC1

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CITY tel. 0171 283 4664 fax. 0171 283 4994

Belle

8 Staple Inn, London, WC1V 7QH
Tel: 0171 404 4655 Fax: 0171 831 7581

PA

C£23,000 pa plus superb benefits
MAYFAIR

One of the Uk's foremost companies seeks an experienced secretary with an interest in business information systems. Assisting two Directors, regular contacts could be investors, bankers, trustees so *your interpersonal skills will be fully utilised. Neither shorthand nor* audio required although excellent WP and desktop publishing skills essential. Luxurious, air-conditioned office, dynamic atmosphere. Benefits include one of the best pension schemes, gym, PRP and private healthcare. AUTUMN START.

Please contact Hilary Watts
to discuss

FRES

ARTS £18,000 - 19,000

If you have an interest in the Arts this role will offer scope and involvement. If you enjoy combining good sec skills with organising prestigious events, researching biographies whilst keeping a bright cheery manner this is an ideal job! Working in lovely surroundings this is an opportunity not to be missed! Sal could be neg. Age 24-34. Skills -/60 wpm with microsoft. Anderson Hoare (rec cons) 0171-834-8821

JUNIOR OFFICE ASSSISTANT MEDIA COMPANY
Up to £10,000 p.a.

This West London company is looking for a bright keen person with excellent computer skills to join their team. This is a fantastic opportunity for someone wanting to get started in the Media, ranging from Magazines to television.
For an immediate interview please call Caroline

SENIOR SECRETARY/PA
£16-18K

If you have first class computer skills, are extremely well organised and have experience at Director level, this leisure industry company needs you.
For an immediate interview please call Lisa.

TEAM SECRETARY-WEST END
£16k+ Bens

Use your excellent typing/audio skills for this demanding role. Word Perfect 5.1 excellent organisational skills and a sense of humour are a pre-requisite for this young lively company. 60wpm.
For an immediate interview please call Lisa

Tel:0181 600 1302
Or fax your Cv to 0181 846 9954
London Human Resources (agy)

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Varied and confidential duties working for head of investment office

£30,000 package

Total commitment required from a classic PA with superb technical skills, sound experience at senior level and a high level of initiative. Candidates who should have a calm and logical disposition, must be well educated(at least A level standard). Organised and have an excellent command of English. Knowledge of French and/or Arabic an advantage. Experience in law, property, finance or investment preferable, and flexibility with regard to work hours essential. Ideal age 28-45. Based in SW1.

Please send full CV with handwritten covering letter to:

Marian Clarke, 6 Roedean Crescent,
London, SW15 5JU
or telephone *0181 392 2937*
for job specification and candidate profile

Hays Banking Personnel
SECRETARIAL DIVISION

LOOKING FOR TEMPORARY WORK? COME TO OUR OPEN DAY!

Thursday 7th August 1997 **8.00am - 7.00pm**

Come and meet our temporary secretarial team and find out what new challenges could lay ahead of you! Proven experience within a banking or blue chip company is preferable and excellent MS Office skills essential. Exciting temporary opportunities exist within many high profile Investment Banks for Team Secretaries, PA's, Senior *Secretaries and DTP Operators. Bring along your CV and meet us on the day or call for a more convenient appointment!*

Call 0171 638 7003

TEAM SECRETARIES

City/West End/South-East London **£9.00 phr + Ongoing**

We are looking for experienced secretaries with strong Powerpoint, Word for Windows and Excel for fantastic opportunities within Investment Banking. You should be flexible, have good communication skills and want to work as part of a team for a prestigious International bank. Banking experience and audio typing would be an advantage. If this sounds of interest, give us a call to arrange an interview.

Call 0171 638 7003

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT

Lewisham/City **£10.00phr +**

Are you able to determine priorities, handle sensitive, confidential information and interact with staff and managers in a professional, approachable and responsible manner? If so, we have ongoing opportunities within Investment Banks for those with a relevant professional track record. You will have strong systems knowledge in Excel, Word and Powerpoint and have the ability to learn new software packages. Interested? Then call now for immediate interview.

Call 0171 638 7003

2ND JOBBER - FIXED INCOME

City **c£18,000+ Package**

Laugh all the way to the bank!! This is a fantastic opportunity *at a prestigious European Merchant bank*. An expert MS Office user, you will have some experience in this field and knowledge of what's involved. Minimum 5 GCSE's, 50wpm typing. ref ae/23171

Call 0171 256 5796

41/42 London Wall, London EC2M 5TB.
Tel: 0171 638 7003. Fax: 0171 628 5057

BILINGUAL SECRETARY MUNICH

Wir gehoren zu den grosseren Patent- und Rechtsanwaltskanzleien *in Deutschland* und suchen fur unser Munchner Buro eine gewandte, sympathische

Sekretarin

die unsere Chemieabteilung unterstutzt. Nachdem der Schriftwechsel mit unseren auslandischen Kollegen und Mandanten in Englisch gefuhrt wird, gute Deutschkenntnisse jedoch ebenfalls erforderlich sind, legen wir allergrossten Wert auf muttersprachliches Englisch und gutes Deutsch in Wort und Schrift.

In einer Patentanwaltskanzlei erworbene Berufserfahrung ware von Vorteil, ist jedoch keine Einstellungsvoraussetzung.

Sie sollten Teamgeist und Freude im Umgang mit unserem Textverarbeitungssystem (Word for Windows) mitbringen und auch keine Angst vor der chemischen Terminologie haben. Kenntnisse in Chemie werden jedoch nicht vorausgesetzt.

Wenn Sie sich durch viel Arbeit nicht abschrecken lassen, auch in Stresszeiten einen kuhlen Kopf bewahren und jederzeit ordentlich und gut organisiert arbeiten, bieten wir Ihnen neben einem modernen Arbeitsplatz auch ein leistungsgerechtes Gehalt und gute Sozialleistungen in einem internationalen Kreis von netten Kolleginnen und Kollegen.

Sollten Sie daran interessiert sein, unser Team zu verstarken, senden Sie uns bitte Ihre Bewerbungsunterlagen mit Foto.

HOFFMANN·EITLE
Patent- und Rechtsanwalte
z.Hd. Frau Gosl,
Arabellastr. 4,
D-81925 Munchen
GERMANY

SPORTS MARKETING AGENCY

Requires secretary to work for Company Lawyer and Senior sponsorship sales executive.
Applicants should have a degree or good A levels. Experienced Audio and knowledge of word for windows, excel and powerpoint.
Responsibilities would include contract *administration and organising* travel and presentation.
Salary circa £19,000.
Legal/media experience and languages would be an advantage.
Applications in writing with CV to Box No 6596

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

BOX No:- ......

***c/o* TIMES NEWSPAPERS**
P.O. BOX 3553,
VIRGINIA ST,
LONDON, E1 9GA

Aldrich & Company

SECRETARY TRADING FLOOR *£19,000 + SUPER BANK BENS*

A lively, well organised young secretary with superb organisation skills required for a leading international Investment Bank in EC2. The phones ring non-stop, you will be working very *closely with clients* and supporting the head of sales & trading with all his administration. Call **Emily Aldrich.**

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

Aldrich & Company

PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION *TO £20,000 + BENS*

Bright, graduate sec required for busy admin role within Personnel Department of top Investment Bank. You must be numerate, analytical and have good *communication and writing skills in order* to support a Manager responsible for Expats and Remuneration. Great opportunity for full involvement - 12 months experience essential. Call **Sarah Turnbull.**

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

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chance OF A *lifetime!*

The company: Start-up London office of US-based telecomms company involved in setting up and operating global projects.

The role: Office Manager/PA-involving role from high level, international liaison through to presentations and buying the office equipment.

The essentials: Self motivated professional with experience *setting and managing corporate* office; advanced PowerPoint.

£25-28,000

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WEST END tel. 0171 494 4466 fax. 0171 494 4499
CITY tel. 0171 283 4664 fax. 0171 283 4994

BORN ORGANISER
£15 -18,000 + Excellent Bens

This progressive international company have a number of vacancies for enthusiastic and outgoing secretaries. Working in one of a number of division you will be supporting a team of busy professionals who need lots of organising. Your day will involve typing correspondence and reports, producing presentation, arranging travel and liaising extensively in the UK and internationally. This is the ideal opportunity to join a *growing firm which will offer definite* career prospects. If you have 2 years secretarial exp (pref city based), 50 wpm, Word, Excel, Powerpoint or equivalent and are a born organiser please call

AVIVA,HELENA or SARA
for an immediate interview on
0171 550 7000

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT

Help our new staff get off to a great start.
Training Course Administrator

c£15k + benefits ***Watford***

As one of the world's leading business advisory organisations, KPMG provides an unrivalled range of services to blue-chip clients. Our induction programme is designed to welcome newly recruited staff to the organisation and we now need an experienced Administrator to help ensure their careers *get off to the best possible start.*

This is a relatively new role in which you will be responsible for organising and administering the induction programme. Key activities will include: liaison with Human Resources personnel and *presenters*, playing an active role in the continuing development of the programme, preparing course and presentation materials, liaising with venues and evaluating course content. In addition, there will be the opportunity to chair some of the programmes. A flexible attitude towards working hours and the willingness to travel *to* London at least once a week will be essential.

This represents an exciting opportunity for a highly presentable individual with excellent communication skills, and an outgoing and confident personality, to play a proactive role. To succeed, you should be educated to 'A' level standard with 2-3 years' administrative experience, *ideally* within a training environment. The ability to manage time effectively and work under pressure using your own initiative will be as important as good PC skills and knowledge of Word, Excel and Powerpoint.

Together with the competitive salary, we offer a benefits package which includes paid overtime, free lunches and a culture which *encourages* personal development.

To apply, please write with your CV to: Susan Morris, Human Resources, KPMG, Management Services Centre, 58 Clarendon Road, Watford WD1 1DA.
Closing date: Monday 18th August 1997.

KPMG means business

PA to CHIEF EXECUTIVE
WEST LONDON
c£23,000 + Benefits

The Chief Executive of an innovative organisation working to develop the local economy seeks an experienced well-presented PA. Working in state of the art offices will be an enthusiastic teamplayer with a high level of initiative used to managing diverse and complex commitments. In addition, you will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, be highly motivated and flexible.

Your responsibilities will include managing his busy diary, drafting correspondence, and extensive liaison with clients. Proven success at executive level plus excellent computer and *secretarial skills are essential.* Shorthand or audio plus W4W.

Tel: 0171 588 3055 Fax: 0171 588 3066
MITCHELL YOUNG ASSOCIATES
Executive Secretarial Recruitment

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pride IN *presentation*

We have great openings using PowerPoint – international management consultancies, banks and *other world leading companies,* offering fantastic prospects, beautiful offices & great benefits.

Typically, you will be working *in small teams,* producing high level PowerPoint presentations and providing secretarial support including diaries/travel etc.

If you have confidence, ambition, PowerPoint (or similar) and 50wpm typing please call.

£14,500 to £21,000
(permanent and contract)

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a passion for recruitment

WEST END tel. 0171 494 4466 fax. 0171 494 4499
CITY tel. 0171 283 4664 fax. 0171 283 4994

MEDIA LAW - IN HOUSE - £20,000 + PACKAGE
International broadcasting group require PA with previous company law experience to work for the VP of Legal & Business affairs. Lots of involvement and plenty of variety.

FENCHURCH STREET - LITIGATION - 1:1 PARTNER LEVEL
[illegible] are looking to work for an established, mid size firm, who whilst having modern offices and the latest equipment retain a very friendly environment where you are treated as a person.

6 MONTH CONTRACT - £23,000 PRO RATA
Head of Conveyancing in this highly regarded firm, needs a skilled sec with solid commercial conveyancing experience. Possibility of permanent employment.

BI-LINGUAL GERMAN PA - EXCELLENT PACKAGE
To work for a Partner who heads this niche unit, you will need to have complete fluency in both German and English as well as a background in law or finance.

S/HAND + LEGAL = £££
If you have current private client or company law experience and usable s/hand [illegible], then we have an excellent opportunity available to develop your PA skills.

For full information on these and other vacancies, please call Diane May on 0171 493 2452.

SUSAN HAMILTON LEGAL

PA REQUIRED FOR LEADING FASHION COMPANY
£20,000-£23,000pa, plus benefits

We are a leading Fashion retailer with an established reputation for design and service excellence. Our current expansion has created a role for a Personal Assistant to the Managing Director and the Director of Finance.

To succeed in this busy and demanding environment requires outstanding administrative and interpersonal skills.

Experience of working with company directors and excellent written and spoken English, are essential as well as computer literacy, with knowledge of Word, powerpoint and excel an advantage.

The successful candidate will be of graduate calibre, enthusiastic, self motivated, discreet and possess a sense of humour.

Interested applicants should send their C.V. with a covering letter to:
PO BOX 6609,

SUPER SECRETARIES

FAME RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS LTD

A PA/Secretary to MD
£19K+ Excellent package/parking.
Consultancy, N7. Windows

A PA/Secretary to Dynamic Director! Harrow. £20k+ benefits. Project presentations full right hand role!
SH/W4W/Excel.
Tel:0181 209 1858

SUPER SECRETARIES

SEC TO CHARITY ADVISER
£8.50/hr.
Computer literate, ideally Microsoft Office Package, Sec and gen duties. Good refs. Hours 10am to 4pm. Could suit someone returning to work, preferably living locally (Clapham).
Tel 0181 674 6883.

ASHFORD, KENT. Director level PA required for this worldwide cosmetic company. [illegible]

DTP/Sec - £15K + Bank Bens. [illegible] Powerpoint [illegible] Appointments Tel 0171 583 0180 Fax 0171 353 9849.

ENTREPRENEUR'S PA [illegible] Long hours. High rewards. [illegible] Cons)0171 494 4020

EXCEPTIONALLY well [illegible] wanted for a PA type role in a new City based company. [illegible] London W1 [illegible]

£21,000 [illegible] 0171 437 3111.

EXPERIENCED PA to Director of charitable organisation. [illegible] Must be [illegible] Send CV [illegible] London, [illegible] 493 4767

HIGH Street Ken W8. [illegible] PA, 30's+ [illegible] 0171 493 7001, Secretaries Plus, The Secretarial Consultants.

HIGH profile businessman requires a Personal Assistant, 1-1 role, can be very isolated. Excellent presentation and speech, French would be an advantage. Must be diplomatic and have excellent secretarial and I.T. skills £24-26K T.J. Office 0171 836 0023

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Law Report August 6 1997 Court of Appeal

Submissions on abuse preferred at substantive hearing

Taylor and Another v Ribby Hall Leisure Ltd and Another

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Hutchison and Lord Justice Mummery

[Judgment July 29]

While the court had strike-out power in supervisory proceedings against solicitors and other officers of the court, in general it was preferable to make submissions on delay, prejudice, potential injustice and other factors relevant to the court's discretion at the substantive hearing rather than by a pre-emptive move to strike out, which would increase the costs and delay that preliminary procedures were intended to avoid.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the second plaintiff, Margaret Taylor, against the decision of Mr Justice Collins in the Queen's Bench Division on June 6, 1996 to strike out as an abuse of process her motion issued in May 1995 for orders of committal and payment of compensation under the inherent and supervisory jurisdiction of the court against Christopher Young, the solicitor for the defendants, Ribby Hall Leisure Ltd and North West Leisure Holdings Ltd, in an action for breach of contract. The first plaintiff, Brian Taylor, died before the motion was issued.

The basis of the motion was an alleged contempt of court by the solicitor in aiding and abetting breaches of an order against the defendants and in acting in breach of a personal undertaking given by him as a solicitor to the court in June 1989.

Mr Andrew Rankin, QC and Mr Malcolm McEwan for the second plaintiff; Mr Crawford Lindsay, QC and Mr John Norman for the solicitor.

LORD JUSTICE MUMMERY, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appeal was concerned with a novel point on the combined effect of three fundamental judicial powers developed to protect and promote the integrity of the orders, officers and processes of the court:

1 The punitive contempt power, exercisable against anyone in breach of a court order or undertaking to the court.

2 The disciplinary supervisory power, exercisable against officers of the court, including solicitors of the supreme court, and

3 The protective procedural power, exercisable against litigants for the *prevention of misuse of the court's process*.

The reasons given by the judge for making the strike out order were that: (i) there had been inordinate and inexcusable delay in issuing the proceedings; (ii) the solicitor had been seriously prejudiced by the delay; and (iii) the damage which the second plaintiff claimed she had suffered could not be shown to have flown from the alleged breaches.

The second plaintiff's submission was that there was no power to strike out, as an abuse of process, proceedings brought either under the contempt or under the supervisory jurisdiction of the court. There was no limitation period for initiating such proceedings. The power to strike out proceedings for want of prosecution on the ground of prejudice resulting from inordinate and inexcusable delay was not available in such a case.

On the application to strike out the motion, so far as it relied on the supervisory jurisdiction, the second plaintiff submitted that:

1 Delays should never be a procedural bar to the investigation by the court of serious misconduct by one of its own officers.

2 The court had a regulatory role over its own officers and different considerations applied to that role *than applied in ordinary litigation* between private parties.

3 Solicitors, as officers of the court, occupied *an important position of* trust. They were expected to conform to *higher standards of conduct* than those applied by the law generally. There was a public interest in maintaining confidence in solicitors. That interest was not diminished in importance by delay in bringing the misconduct to the attention of the court.

4 The delay in the present case was not of a kind which could have constituted inordinate or inexcusable delay for the purpose of striking out a case for want of prosecution, because it was of a pre-writ quality, occurring before the institution of the proceedings.

5 The abuse of process power exercised by the court in criminal proceedings was not analogous to supervisory proceedings. Criminal proceedings affected matters between the state and its citizens. This was a distinct and special jurisdiction exercisable by the court only over its own officers.

6 The proper stage at which to consider delay and its consequences, such as prejudice, was at the full hearing of the motion. The court could then exercise its discretion with regard to all the relevant factors to be weighed in the balance. The court would be in *a position to protect the defendant* from any prejudice or injustice.

7 The special power to award *compensation* did not put the solicitor in a position of an *ordinary litigant who could rely on* delay as a procedural bar to a full hearing. It would be wrong for the court to *allow one of its officers*, against whom there was a case of misconduct to answer, to go scot-free on a procedural ground without explanation or investigation of his conduct.

The court's conclusion was that there was an inherent discretionary power in the court to strike out both contempt or supervisory proceedings as an abuse of process. The points made by the second plaintiff against the existence of such a power were more relevant to the proper exercise of the judicial discretion.

The absence of the limitation period for initiating a proceeding did not preclude the power to strike out for abuse of process. There might exist a legal right to initiate proceedings at any time, but the exercise of that right must be subject to the overriding power of the court to protect the integrity of its processes.

Support for that approach was to be found in the cases of abuse of process relating to delay in the initiation of criminal proceedings *for offences for which no limitation* period was prescribed. Such criminal proceedings were not, for that *reason*, exempt from regulation by the court. The court had a residual *discretion to prevent* use of the process in a way which was unfair to a party to the proceedings.

The *principal purpose* of both the contempt power and criminal proceedings was punitive. Their *aim was to secure obedience to the* law and to punish a person who had acted in breach of the law.

A breach of a court order or of an undertaking to the court or aiding and abetting such a breach was a very serious matter. The court could impose either a sentence of imprisonment or a fine.

The supervisory power over solicitors was essentially a summary disciplinary power exercised by the court over its own officers to ensure their observance of an honourable standard of conduct and to punish derelictions of duty.

The discretionary nature of the jurisdiction should be emphasised. The discretion extended both to procedure and substantive relief. It was flexible and unfettered by any absolute rules and was to be exercised according to the facts of the particular case.

In those *circumstances*, it was relevant to consider, on a strike-out application, the prospects of the court exercising that exceptional power at the substantive hearing to grant coercive or compensatory relief.

While lapse of time did not always provide a complete answer to a claim for breach of an undertaking it was a different matter when the circumstances of the particular case were such that the court was unlikely to exercise that power.

In the exercise of the discretion, the public interest was, of course, a *factor to* be taken into account. There was a real public interest in the maintenance and observance of *honourable standards* of conduct by officers of the court, in the efficient administration of justice *and in* compliance with court orders and undertakings. The weight to be attached to public *interest factors* would depend on the facts of the particular case.

The judge had been entitled to conclude *that there was an abuse* of the process in bringing the motion: there had been long and *inexcusable delay and* there was a genuine risk of prejudice to the solicitor.

In those circumstances it would be an abuse of process for the motion to proceed to a substantive hearing, as there was no real prospect of the court exercising its discretion to grant the relief sought on the motion.

It was, in general, preferable to make submissions on delay, prejudice, potential injustice and other factors relevant to the court's discretion in its contempt and *supervisory powers* at the substantive hearing rather than by a preliminary pre-emptive move to *strike out. That procedure might* be open to the objection that it increased the costs and delay that preliminary *procedures were* intended to avoid.

For future guidance such proceedings should, in the absence of a good reason, be initiated within a reasonable time of a party obtaining knowledge of a breach of a court order or undertaking or other misconduct.

In most cases the court was dependent on a party bringing a breach or a case of misconduct to its notice so that appropriate action could be taken.

Solicitors: Banks Wilson, Preston; Barlow Lyde & Gilbert.

Corrections

In *Ariyo v Sovereign Leasing plc* (*The Times* August 4) the solicitors for Mr Ariyo were Akainyah & Co, Finsbury Park.

In *Neville and Another v Wilson and Others (No 2)* (*The Times* July 28) the plaintiffs were Mr Jeffrey Neville and Mrs Eileen Hill. Mr Joseph Wilson was a defendant. Mr Nicholas Padfield, QC did not appear below or at the substantive hearing.

The College of Law legal practice course results, 1997

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The results relate solely to students who were successful at the first attempt. If your name is not in this list and you *have not received a letter by* today, telephone the exam helpline at the branch of the college at which you attended.

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Inness Chaytor S L†; Ivey J P†

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O'Connor C T†; O'Hagan G†; Oliver K A†; Oliver M L†; Ormerod K†; Orpin J D†; Owtram J P†

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Young A H; Young B B†

Part-time 1995/96

Adamo O A; Ahluwalia S; Ambrose P†; Baines-Farrant A E; Barker K L†; Barrett C N; Bowers D J†; Carr G; Dulai S K; Eaglesfield S†; Felton R W; Francis T; Gardiner S E; Griffin B H; Harris C P; Harrison C J†; Hiller E†; Jackson R; Lambert-Humble K; Lever S K; Lloyd K; Milton E; Mitchell A J†; Norman V†; Nute E M; Oloni I B; Sandhu R K; Soper J L*; Tookey L C†; Valler K M; Winning L C

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Argent D T†; Bates R P; Beazley S N M†; Bressler L P; Butler M J R; Childs D A; Coleman S L†; Denver S J†; Duffy B G; Farchy A J†; Gill P; Hearty P; Humphreys M E; Mc Guire M J†; Neary E A; Page J R; Prior C L†; Reeve M W†; Stileman T P E; Tarrant L J; Watts C M; Webb S

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Abbas S; Abbott D J; Adams N C†; Agasee S L; Ahmed S; Ainger J L†; Akins E J; Alavy M*; Alfille T†; Ali M†; Ali S; Allan J M; Allen D J†; Allen K R†; Allsuch L J†; Anand H†; Andersen C H†; Anwar S†; Arazi J E; Ardill N J*; Arif K S; Arshad S; Arunasalam K; Atfield W J†; Atkins M J†; Atkinson A R†

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Calvey M G†; Cameron F; Cameron S R; Campbell J C; Cann I D*; Cannon Brookes L N†; Carmel S L*; Carter J I; Cash S J*; Cassar C M†; Catchpole D†; Cavaliere M; Chagtai N; Chambers K L†; Chan D S†; Chang J Y; Charkham A J†; Chen S K; Cheng P; Cheong H L; Chetham J†; Chilton M F†; Chong D K; Chow M G*; Chowne R M†; Christian E L*; Chue J T; Chung D; Clark J T; Clark K A; Clark P J*; Clarke C J†; Clarke J M*; Clarke F†; Clements S C†; Cockerill S H; Cohen L T; Cole G H*; Cole L C*; Coleman C L†; Collins S K; Collis S L; Coltman G E†; Comis S†; Constantinou S†; Conte F; Cook N T; Cook R J†; Cooke E W†; Copestake E L†; Cornes J; Corzberg S†; Cosmetatos P P*; Coss C P; Cousins J E*; Crellin L†; Cribb J; Crocker J E†; Crocker S R; Crookes S H*; Cruickshank D A†; Cullis G F; Cumming K S; Cummings K M

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Edwards S F†; Egnal L A†; Egoz O†; Elliott N J†; Ellis S N; Elomari A M†; Elyahou G†; Emsley M C*; Eustace J A; Evans R J†; Evers R T†; Exelby V J†

Fabian B S†; Falokun O O; Falvey S L†; Farnell C E†; Farrelly M P†; Fea J H*; Feldman D M†; Fenn M T†; Fern Y L; Ferris J C; Field A S†; Fields A; Finn P M; Fisk E J†; Flahive J; Flynn G V*; Fofaria A K; Ford R L*; Forrester N A; France C M†; Francis K R; Fredenham L J; Freeburn L S*; Frost J C; Fuge R A; Fugler B†; Fung S H; Furness H M*; Fushida E; Fyfe S J†

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Hadaway N M†; Hagerty Crosse S; Hakura F S†; Halawin P G; Hale M C†; Hall M J*; Hall P A†; Hall W M†; Hallgarth A G*; Halton J S*; Hammond B C†; Hammond T M†; Harding K A; Hargreaves S J†; Harrington J J; Harris A C†; Harris S†; Harrold L R†; Hart R; Harte M C; Harvey J P†; Harvey Wood L D†; Hayes S E†; Hayhurst P S*; Hayre N; Haythorne N A†; Hayward E M*; Heath C M†; Heaton C J†; Heaton M M†; Hebbes T J*; Held A J†; Hennessey J†; Hession M†; Heung K M; Heywood A†; Heyworth Dunn M S†; Hickman F; Higginson G†; Hill E R; Hill T J; Hillman N R†; Hirsch M D*; Hobbs N J; Holland A S†; Holland E†; Holmes R M†; Hopwood D J†; Horne R P; Horne S; Horton R*; Hottorl M; Houlden J G; Hudson C E†; Hudson J H; Hudson P J; Hughes F E; Humphreys E C†; Humphreys S L; Humphries C A; Hunt S†; Hurst T E*; Husband E J; Hussain F T†; Hussain H I†; Hutchinson C J; Hyams C M; Hyne J A

Ibberson S A†; Ireland R J†

Jackson C M*; Jackson D A†; Jacob M†; Jadesimi S B; Jaiswal A; James B D*; James M*; Jarvis C M; Jarvis E L†; Jepson D K; Joffe A J†; Johns H M*; Johnson C J; Jones M A†; Jones R N; Judt E L†

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Lacey C L†; Ladwa A†; Lai N; Lamont J D†; Lands R C†; Larah A M; Latham V A†; Lawrence C*; Lawrence C A*; Lawrence V; Lawson K R; Leathley S M†; Lee D†; Lee J Y†; Lehrer S*; Lellos S; Leung F; Lewin J B*; Lewis C S†; Lewis F A†; Lewis R T; Li M L†; Lian M L†; Liddell A N; Lim Z H†; Linossier C†; Lintern K A*; Liu M L*; Lloyd E K; Lo J K†; Lobb A M†; Lock V A; Lomax F J†; Longhurst P A†; Longva T†; Ludlow T L†; Lugger C A†; Lui R S†; Lunt H J; Luo S Y; Lynch A R; Lyons S

Macaulay I A; Macfarlane P J*; Machin A L†; Mackenzie Smith R J; Macmillan P J; Magloire J M; Mahapatra R K; Mamtora M†; Man C†; Mansouri P J; Marlow T; Maroo A†; Martin A K†; Martinez K A†; Marziano S C†; Mason J R; Master J D*; Mattison R C; Mays B D*; Mazzucca G J†; Mc Cahill R L†; Mc Carthy J; McCarthy S L†; McCarthy V J†; McDonald R; McEwen G A†; McGrath J A; McGuinness S A†; McInerney A M†; Mc Intyre Brown A J*; Mc Kenner M F†; Mc Kenzie J A*; McMicking A J; Mc Namara C E*; Mc Namara G J; Measures J S; Meharg W J*; Menczyk K M†; Messiou K†; Meytanis S†; Michael C O; Michaels P D*; Michell J R†; Miller D R*; Miller P J*; Miller T M†; Misquitta A L; Mohtashami R†; Moore T L†; Moran T J; Morelli E†; Morgan E K†; Morgan S M†; Moriarty M†; Morjaria S M†; Morris R*; Mortimer S†; Moscoso E L; Mostyn S R†; Moynihan S J†; Mukherjee D†; Mulliner F M*; Murphy M J†; Murphy S P†; Mussa A; Mustill C E†; Myles D F

Nadin J R; Nahal R K†; Nathan D†; Nazhat J; Nazir S†; Neale A L†; Neale A S*; Neidle D M†; Neilan J P†; Nevin H†; Newman E A†; Ng J E*; Nicol A G; Nittenberg R; Niyazi N†; Noble A M; Noon J A*; Norris D G*; Northover J A; Nugent B I†

O'Brien C L; O'Connell R C; O'Donnell R M†; O'Shea H†; Oakley C J†; Oakley R J†; Ogunlesi I F†; Olanipekun L M; Olivieri S†; Oppenheimer T H*; Ormrod K E†; Ortner S E*; Osborn N F†; Osler J P*; Osman R J; Ostle R J; Ostrovsky S; Ovenden S J†; Oyekunle O

Padhiar P†; Pallett H M†; Panayiotou M†; Pang W S†; Panja K K†; Papanchev S G; Parikh K A†; Park S H†; Parmar R; Pashby M R; Patel J†; Patel K D; Patel N; Patel R; Patel R†; Patel R; Patel S; Patterson E J; Payne E T†; Payne H L†; Payne S R; Pearson J B†; Pedersen A S; Peel R E†; Penn R G†; Pennington M H†; Perera N G†; Phillips H A; Phillips O D; Pichardo Angadi T C†; Pickering C D*; Pickworth J M†; Pilbeam N S†; Piper C M*; Piper J V; Plenderleith M I†; Pollard M†; Powers J T; Prodger C L†; Prothero A E†; Protopapa M; Pyne J A*; Pytches D M*

Quie J R†; Quraishi I

Raab D†; Rab S L†; Rafique S N*; Rai A†; Rai B*; Raj N S†; Ralston P C†; Ramjahn H†; Rampton E M†; Rana M; Ranasinghe U C*; Ranger T J†; Raven A P†; Rawson E L†; Reay L A*; Redlich S C†; Redout S J*; Rehal M; Rentoul A L†; Richards M†; Richardson J A*; Ridett K J; Roberts C G†; Robson J M†; Roche S B†; Rock A J†; Rocker R S; Rogers J A†; Rome R S†; Rondel N L†; Roopra P; Roots L R†; Rosen A C†; Rossiter L P; Roth A M*; Rouse S E; Rubin V†; Rudge L P†; Rumbelow M N†; Russ H R; Russell D E†; Ryan B J; Ryan L I†; Ryan M J†

Sadleir R J*; Sahota K K; Sails D W*; Salim A; Samant P K; Samaratunga V S*; Sandhu G; Sarabia L I†; Satkunananthan C; Sauvet A D; Sayers V M†; Schopflin J*; Seal J D†; Selvasagaran T; Senior R I†; Shackleford C E; Shah H; Shah J K†; Shah J N†; Shah M†; Shah M D†; Shah S†; Shah S; Shah S R; Sharma K; Sharma N†; Sharma P V; Sharp E J†; Sharp G D†; Shaw O C*; Shaw S*; Shebson M†; Sheraton H J†; Sherrington E R†; Sheybani L; Shigiya K*; Shingadia N S; Short R; Shorten B R†; Simmons R P†; Sinclair A J†; Skinner V S; Sloper K J*; Small S J†; Smart B; Smith A E; Smith B D; Smith C H; Smith E P†; Smith G P; Smyth K S†; Sokhi R K; Sondh P K; Sosanya O A†; Soulieux J A†; Speller S L*; Spence S K†; Stalbow N I†; Standley J E; Steans E J*; Stelfox D P; Stephens K M*; Stockton T; Stockwell C A; Stokoe S C†; Stones J A†; Storey S†; Stott J W†; Stratford G S†; Streeter D J; Sue Patt J P; Sullivan G J†; Summers T D†; Suri S M*; Surr E L*; Swainson A C; Swift B*; Syal H; Szelepet E M†; Szeto C; Szostak C S†

Tam W*; Taylor B M*; Taylor J M†; Taylor L E; Telford P A†; Terakopian E*; Thackeray S E†; Theodore K H; Thomas D H†; Thomas K L*; Thomas S K; Thompson D A*; Thompson R M; Thompson S J*; Thomson P S†; Thomson S I†; Tjen A M; Tonks E M†; Townsend P J†; Toyloy N Y†; Trampaklos J; Tricard Y M; Tricker M J*; Trotman V L†; Trup D S; Turner C F†; Turner M J*; Turschwell D; Twine S E*

Ubhi S S; Ullah Z; Umbach C I†; Underwood H A*

Vallance R E; Varoujian R R; Vause A; Vaz L M*; Velusami A†; Vernor Miles W E†; Victor M

Walker S D†; Walsh G A†; Walsh S A†; Walters T M†; Ward D S†; Watkins A C*; Watling N R†; Watters S G†; Weavers N C†; Webber K M*; Webber M†; Wedel S M; Wein M†; Westlake D A; Weston E W*; Weston J†; Whitaker G N†; White G*; White O J†; Whitehead M G; Whitaker J M†; Whyte S; Widdowson D M†; Williams G†; Williams I G†; Williams J A†; Williams R M; Williams V V; Wills A C; Wilson D C†; Wilson N K†; Woffinden D A†; Wong R Y; Wong S N†; Wood J K*; Woodward F J†; Wynniatt Husey G A†

Yao S A; Yiacoumis H G; Yin J W†; Young A H†; Young S; Yu E H†

Zachary A A; Zakaim E; Zantout H; Zielinski S A; Zoltowska L

Part Time 1995/1996

Adejokun M A; Ali H†; Barclay E L†; Boreland L O; Casey P E; Charnley E; Connolly V M; de Bellissen S†; Driver H E*; Everett M D†; Faithful D L†; Ferguson M; Finnegan A J†; Fischer L; Franz S M†; Giles M†; Gill D; Greenwood S J†; Hadden J M†; Harla N; Horrell A M†; Idudu-Overo U; Jabar C†; Kelly I†; Kleiner G†; Kyriakides E; Lachman C; Lalolo C M; Leech G P†; Lester K; Lewis S M†; Lewzey G S; Lilley K; Lowery E J†; Lucy A†; Malik S M; Matthews S; Maynard E L; McAndrew-Bingham H A J; McIlwain H A; Mitchell S A; Morrison D W; Mynett L C†; Namaseevayum J M; Nelson A D; Noyes A R; O'Dwyer S J; Obi M N; Parsonage S R†; Patty J; Reeves D; Reveglia V; Ryland R J*; Saffin I J†; Saimbhi R K†; Sanghani A V; Shattock J R*; Southern J T†; Stoten L J*; Stowe N Y; Tchan D; Tyldesley P J†; Wood P V; Wyatt H J†

Part Time 1995/1997

Anokye†; Barends C J*; Bradshaw†; Cartwright S J†; Coates K J*; Conder J G; Coyle M A†; Craig L E*; Davies L J*; Farmer J; Fidler B L; Glaser P†; Goddard S J†; Gogna P†; Hrusa T L; Hunter S L; James K M†; Jeffery G F; Kerr W†; King A F*; Kirsch D L*; Lane I P; Lauzeral I; Ley †; Lock G A†; Lonergan A M; Madge R F†; Michael H†; Monroe J A†; Nicoll I J†; Niyazi N; O'Riordan I; Ogbonnaya N; Osborne M G; Pond S F†; Redgrave J D; Rowe A J; Salih N†; Sizah †; Sheedy J R; Silverman K B; Slater G N†; Spencer Smith M†; Stevens N†

York

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Ager D J†; Amin J†; Anwar R†; Arthur S D; Atkinson V A; Antwell N A; Ayre M J†

Baird E J*; Bale D M†; Bambro J M†; Bargery C R*; Barnes M A; Barratt S L*; Barton C R†; Basha H†; Batty R L†; Beadsworth N G; Bentley C; Berridge A R†; Bielby R M†; Birchenough H M; Blick J A†; Bond R E*; Bond Gunning A M†; Bone M; Booth C E; Borson S L†; Bower T L†; Bowman S L†; Bowring M R†; Bowyer C*; Bradley D P; Bramley L C†; Brody S L†; Brown A L†; Bryan R L†; Buckham A P

Campbell G A; Carter E J*; Chan R; Chandrani R S; Charlton I A†; Cheng J C†; Chinn J*; Chrishan A N*; Clayton M D†; Clough A S*; Coates C E†; Collinge D J*; Collini M E†; Colvin J N†; Cooke R M*; Cookson S E*; Cooper I R*; Costella V*; Cross S J*; Cummings S J†

Dale A J†; Daniels C J*; Daniels M†; Davies S E; Davies A†; Davies I A†; Davis Pipe N L*; Davison E; Dawson C†; Day A J; Dean J R†; Deans M S†; Dhanjal R*; Drabble D P*; Duncan J K*; Dunn C F; Duran C E

Edwards C S*; Edwards J†; Edwards C P*; Elder C; Eltringham J L†; Evans A G†; Ewing R J†

Fairclough D T†; Falle J E*; Farmer J†; Farr S*; Faulkner C E†; Fearon L M*; Ferguson P N†; Fevre M F†; Finfer A M; Flegg M P†; Fletcher C L†; Foreman E†; Froggatt V H; Frogson R J†; Fyfie J J*

Gaffney R D†; Galvin H J*; Galvin A R; Gaskell J E†; Gass I*; Gaudern E M†; George R S*; Godbole R D; Gooding R J*; Goodwin M D†; Gouck A R; Gourlet G C†; Gower C T*; Gower J D†; Grant N G; Grasby R D*; Gray C N*; Green W J†; Greene C V†; Gregory D L†; Grice K D†; Griffin S M†; Groom S J†

Hair S L*; Hall C*; Hallott R D†; Hamilton C N*; Hannam P J; Harrison C A; Hart D J†; Harvey R J*; Harwin K L*; Hatton J*; Haylock L†; Heap J D; Heaton A J*; Henderson F P*; Hewer F W†; Hewitt J A†; Hill J C†; Hodkin M R*; Hoggarth A R*; Holmes S L*; Hopkinson S C†; Hopkinson C; Houston J A; Huckstep C L; Hudson D W†; Hughes M R†; Humble C L†; Humble P*; Hunt T S

Ions J A†

Jackson S; James S M*; Jardine V L†; Jilani J A; John Z L*; Johnson S A*; Jones D L†; Jones M†; Jones O L†

Kalla A; Kassam A H†; Kenyon P T; Kilpatrick B G*; Kilshaw B D; Kirk D D*; Krafft P A

Lamb R D; Lawrence S E*; Lee R M*; Lee C H*; Leece S†; Lefort C L; Leigh S J*; Lewis P G*; Linderman M J†; Little R M†; Liversidge C M†; Lupton J S

Maclean A R†; Maloney K S†; Mannix L M; Mannix S E†; Manthorpe I; Martin C F†; Matthews B R*; Maude D M†; Mayfield H J†; McBride L S; McClung A L*; McCrory P M; McKie I P*; McMahon S M†; McMorris R E†; McQueen S A†; McSwaine C J; McKittrick S W; Mead C D†; Mercer K; Mesrie J M†; Metcalfe C L†; Mifsud S J†; Miles G A; Miles S C; Miles K L*; Moore J S; Moore S†; Morley J N*; Morter D G*; Mortimer M J†; Morton Fincham M R; Moseling M C†; Mulligan E R†; Murphy J†; Murray S†

Naish J E†; Neal K E; Nelson R E†; Newbold J R†; Newton S*; Niman C L; Norris D A*

O'Reilly T A†; O'Reilly D T; O'Brien J E; Ogilvie S E*; Oglethorpe R K†; Owen J E

Palak J S; Parkin H E; Parnell R J; Patel N R; Patten R L†; Payne A D*; Pearce J C*; Pearey N M†; Pease M R; Penny J M; Petrie M E†; Pickard D J†; Pickard C A†; Pooley J C; Preston M T*; Purvis E R

Receveur K Y; Reed R T; Reilly S M; Roberts H E†; Robertson Smith S J†; Robinson R J; Robinson E E†; Rochester S†; Rouse N J†; Rowan K P; Royle C J; Russell H J

Sanichara D P*; Sanmuganathan M R; Saul M G†; Saunders D C†; Shah A†; Shearsmith N J†; Sheikh N Z; Simmonite C E†; Simpson M F†; Simpson J E; Skeet S; Skehan A†; Skrine J R†; Sleight P T†; Smith L A; Smith M S†; Smith D J†; Snowball H; Sparkes J E*; Speed J†; Spottiswoode C L†; Stacey S C†; Stacey O D†; Steel K†; Stell H K†; Stewart R A†; Stewart P G; Stewart R J†; Stirk R D†; Stirk R J*; Stocks R A†; Storry A J†; Stowe K E; Stubbs N G; Sutton M J†; Sykes D W*; Symonds H J*

Tanikal J F†; Tate P A†; Tattley V H*; Taylor S R; Taylor L J†; Taylor I A*; Taylor A M†; Taylor D L*; Thompson M J†; Thompson D M†; Thompson M G†; Thompson C S*; Thompson J Q; Thompson G E; Thompson J H*; Todd C†; Treacy S M†; Tudor N†; Turner P D*; Tyfield S W†

Ubhi S K†

Vallely V J†; Venkateswaran A F*

9999Warburton B P; Warburton R J*; Ward E J†; Wardle J J†; Waters J S†; Watson D G†; Wheatley S C; Whitefield L H†; Whitehurst E; Whitton A C W; Wigglesworth T R†; Wilkinson L A; Williams D M*; Wilson P M; Wilson S E; Wilson A K; Worsnup C G†; Wright S J; Wright A C; Wright G E†; Wright L J†

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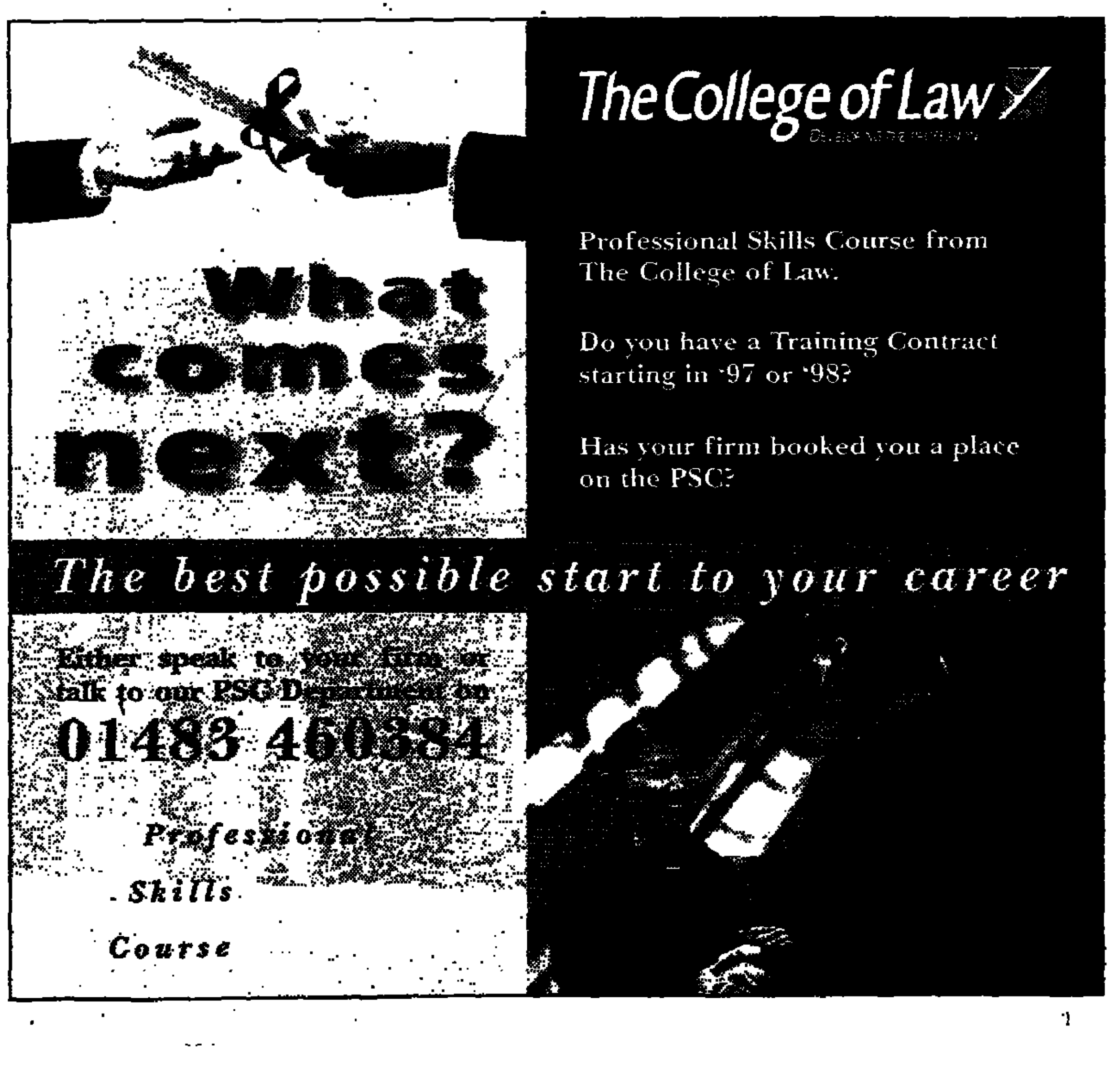

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RUGBY UNION: TWICKENHAM STAGES DIGNIFIED DEPARTURE OF SECRETARY

Hallett makes a peaceful exit

BY MARK SOUSTER

FOR Tony Hallett, it was indeed High Noon. At midday yesterday, the secretary of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) strode into a conference room at Twickenham and confirmed that he was resigning. The man who had been branded the bad guy by opponents had succumbed in the shoot-out and, once the gunsmoke had cleared, only Cliff Brittle had been left standing.

Hallett put on a bravura performance. So, too, did Brittle, the chairman of the union's management board, but then he could afford to. There was no hint of the rancour that had soured relations between the two during the past 20 months of political infighting. Sitting beside each other, they put aside their differences and talked instead of their mutual admiration.

Brittle said how much Hallett would be missed, which begged the question as to why he was going, how the new Twickenham would be his lasting legacy, how there would always be a welcome for him at the RFU. Yes, there had been differences of opinion over policy and roles, but it had never been personal. Hallett was offered effusive thanks for his efforts over the past two difficult years and promised tickets for life.

For his part, Hallett remained dignified. Yes, he was sad to be leaving but the game, and its unity and integrity, were bigger than any one individual. "I am leaving with a clear conscience and with the RFU, I believe, in good order. I believe it is fundamental that there be unity amongst those charged with running the game ... I have therefore decided that for the benefit of the game I should leave rather than appear to prolong the discord," he said.

Farewell performance: Hallett faces the media at Twickenham yesterday to announce his resignation

The search for a successor to Hallett, who has been paid compensation and will leave within a week, begins immediately. The replacement will have the title of chief executive and should be in place within three to six months. Brittle was insistent that Hallett's departure marked a new beginning and that the internecine squabbling was a thing of the past.

Asked about the position of Jack Rowell as England coach, Brittle said that "people underestimate his [Rowell's] chances of retaining the job". Despite the widespread feeling that a change is needed, Rowell may indeed stay in place through to the 1999 World Cup, if only because of the lack of an outstanding successor who could be prised away from his club at this late stage without massive compensation having to be paid.

Possible successors who have been sounded out include Ian McGeechan, Richard Hill, Clive Woodward and Rob Smith. At a meeting attended by five members of the national playing commitee at the East India Club two weeks ago, under the chairmanship of Bill Beaumont, it was agreed that the contractural commitments of each should be investigated. McGeechan remains the favourite with some but he has also been approached recently by the Scottish Rugby Union about a possible coaching role at Murrayfield combined with his existing commitments at Northampton, where he has a six-year contract. McGeechan's acceptance of any RFU offer could also be dependant upon him being guaranteed a bigger role, such as Director of Rugby, in the future.

Hill, who has transformed Gloucester, is preferred by others but the likelihood of Graham Henry, of Auckland, being invited to succeed Rowell is remote. It is felt that John Mitchell, of Sale, would be a better option and he will be invited to coach England A this autumn.

No decision on Rowell's future will be taken until the end of August, but the longer the saga drags on the better his chances of staying put — should he still want to. One source said: "You don't close the door [on Rowell] unless another one is open and the chances of that happening before the season starts are dramtically reducing."

Townsend considers a move

GREGOR TOWNSEND will decide by the end of next week whether to leave Northampton (Mark Souster writes). Townsend yesterday spent two hours with Ian McGeechan, the director of rugby at the club, discussing his future and has not ruled out the possibility of staying at Franklins Gardens.

However, it appears likely that, with Northampton unable to guarantee him the stand-off role he covets, he will move to either Richmond or Cardiff. Both have their advantages for Townsend, the British Isles stand-off in South Africa: Cardiff offer him the chance to play in the European Cup, while Richmond will be in the first division next season and his girlfriend is moving to London in the autumn for six months. "It's how I feel about the club and which I feel will be best for my development as a player," Townsend said yesterday. Cardiff have offered him a three-year contract worth a reputed £500,000.

Auckland, the Super 12 champions, are set to buy a large stake in Blackheath, the second division London club, which has money problems. An announcement is expected later this week.

Vernon Pugh, who has chaired the Welsh Rugby Union's general committee for four years, has decided not to seek re-election as WRU chairman. He will continue in the post for an interim period of one month until the new chairman is elected in September.

BOWLS

Yorkshire bloom as Alderson runs riot

BY DAVID RHYS JONES

IF THE Britain in Bloom judges, who visited Royal Leamington Spa last week, had popped into Victoria Park yesterday, they would surely have been impressed with the white roses of Yorkshire, for whom everything in the garden was lovely. Eight of the 24 players who helped Yorkshire win the six-rink Johns Trophy on Monday, stayed on to win the Walker Cup, awarded annually to the winners of the women's national double rink championship.

Beryl Alderson, who has played for England indoors since 1987, but has failed to garner enough points from national appearances to gain a place in the outdoor side, was outstanding. After skipping her rink to a fine 19-17 win over Mary Price, of Buckinghamshire, in the semi-final, Alderson ran riot after lunch, steering Ann Colley, Janet Hague and June Foster to a 26-13 victory over Pat Hallam.

Jean Pindar, skipping the other rink, was in fine form, too. With good support from Dot Kennelly, Barbara Stokes and Pat Napier, she forced a creditable 16-16 tie with Lynne Thelwell in the semi-finals, and eased to a 22-14 win over Janet Green in the final.

In Stratford-upon-Avon, the local club had something to celebrate. Nine years after being moved out of their club premises by their landlords, the Royal Shakespeare Company, they were hosting an international event. The club found a farmer who granted them a piece of land three miles out of town for the nominal rent of a crate of whisky a year.

Yesterday, their green was praised by the leading young players of England and Australia, as they contested the first of three international matches, using an attractive new six-a-side format. The teams play two triples matches in the morning, three pairs in the afternoon and six singles in the evening, and the first session, in which the sides shared the honours, held the promise of a tight series.

Ian Bond's triple won for England, and Brett Duprez's squared it for Australia, before, with one win each in the pairs, a single shot victory for Wayne Cheeseman and Bond over Garry Willis and Tom Ellem tipped the balance England's way.

Wacky ruses that always sell sport short

SIMON BARNES

Midweek View

There are times when a journalist must stand up and be counted. When a serious injustice is brought to his attention, it is a journalist's job to tell the world. So let the campaign start here. Justice for Penelope Pitstop.

Ms Pitstop, the driver of the Compact Pussycat, won on a magnificent four occasions in the 34 episodes of the Hanna-Barbera cartoon series *Wacky Races*. But the Wacky Races championship, if calculated by the points system used in Formula One motor racing, leaves her in fifth place. This is surely not right — totally unfair, ridiculous. In fact, one begins to wonder if we are talking about serious sport at all.

These important figures, worked out by a chap called Graham Smith and communicated to the *Daily Mail*, make extraordinary reading. The overall champions are the Slag Brothers, Rock and Gravel, in the Boulder Mobile, who only won three times, but made up ground with eight second-place finishes.

This is roughly what happened in grand prix racing in 1987, when Nelson Piquet's collection of second places gave him the championship over the win-or-bust style of Nigel Mansell. One has to wonder about a system that rewards second-best over a winner. Are we talking sporting excellence? Or are we talking about stringing along as many people for as long as possible in the name of rather spurious entertainment?

As you would expect, there is a difference between real sport and the Wacky Races. The Wacky Races are much more sensible. Let us look at the world club championship in the sport of rugby league. This began as an excellent idea: the best of the Australasian clubs against the best of Europe.

Penrith Panthers, of Australia, won all six of their matches in the qualifying stage of the competition. You can't really do better than that. Bradford Bulls lost all six of theirs, and you can't do a lot worse. Guess which team qualified for the quarter-finals? Correct: Bradford Bulls. Further point: in their six matches, Penrith scored 256 points. St Helens, still in the competition, scored 96.

The reason for these anomalies is that the draw was rigged in order to get four teams from each hemisphere into the quarter-finals. In sporting terms, you can see the point, but the competition had been built around the search for television audiences, rather than the serious quest for sporting excellence. Sport looks rather silly as a result.

We do not have to look very far to find further examples of the Wacky Races Syndrome. Look at the European Cup Champions' League. The search for excellence has been disastrously compromised this season, as the competition, while retaining the same name, becomes the champions and runners-up league.

Even last year, the competition had enough anomalies to be going on with. Manchester United reached the semi-finals, despite losing three times. They lost five times in the competition altogether. Get as many big teams as possible, get them to play as many matches as possible, and count your money. Sporting audiences are fools — they will watch anything. Or perhaps the idea is to make as much money as possible before the dread day comes, when sporting people realise that they are being taken for suckers.

That day comes ever closer. Take the last cricket World Cup. It involved 12 teams, playing in two groups. There were 30 games scheduled in order to winnow them down to eight. The teams that were eliminated could have been picked out from the start: United Arab Emirates, Holland, Kenya and Zimbabwe. The system was so absurd that Australia and West Indies didn't even bother to play two of their games, and still qualified.

Meanwhile, the football World Cup gets more and more silly. The last competition went through the two-week group stage to reduce 24 teams to 16. Did we get proper football after that? No, because the penalty shoot-out came in. Football has reached a point when the group stage is largely bogus, and so is the knockout stage. Never mind. Sporting audiences lap it up.

Increasingly, though, we walk away unsatisfied. What people seek from sport is the quest for excellence, the quest for *true*. Not because we are all sporting purists, but because the true struggle for excellence and victory is the most exciting thing that television can bring.

If victory does not truly matter to the participants, then the audience is left unsatisfied and, in the end, we will go elsewhere. Increasingly, the great symbiosis of sport and television is selling us alcohol-free lager while claiming that it is the real thing. Night after night we drink our 20 pints and find ourselves still standing, and we are just beginning to ask a few questions about the stuff we have been consuming.

Dick Dastardly and Mutley did not win a single one of the Wacky Races, but I get the sneaking feeling that they have taken over the management of professional sport.

HOCKEY

Lawrie inspires Scots

SCOTLAND stayed in the hunt for qualification for the World Cup finals with a 1-1 draw against New Zealand in pool B of the qualifying tournament in Harare.

Alison Grant gave Scotland an eleventh-minute lead but Robin Matthews equalised in the 55th minute to give New Zealand a deserved draw. Grant steered in Sue Fraser's shot from Scotland's only penalty corner.

The Scots gave a controlled defensive performance as New Zealand enjoyed the majority of possession — winning ten short corners — with Sue Lawrie, the Scotland keeper, in inspired form.

Mike Gilbert, the Scotland coach, said: "Our defence played very well under pressure for long periods and our homework on New Zealand's corner routine paid dividends. We were disappointed not to get the three points."

Scotland face Spain today. Victory would give them third or fourth place and a chance to qualify for the World Cup finals next year.

IN BRIEF

Krajicek's power is irresistible

RICHARD KRAJICEK, the Wimbledon champion last year, had no trouble in disposing of this year's runner-up, Cedric Pioline, of France, on the opening night of the ATP championships in Cincinnati. The Dutchman, seeded No 12, secured victory 6-3, 6-4.

The ninth seed, Marcelo Rios, of Chile, completed a 6-3, 7-5 win over Jonas Bjorkman, of Sweden.

Swimming: If Erik de Bruin refuses to attend a hearing of the executive board of the European Swimming League over a false identity claim, then his wife, Michelle Smith, the triple Olympic champion, whom he coaches, may not defend her European titles in Seville this month.

Motorsport: Kenneth Eriksson, of Sweden, won the New Zealand rally for the first time yesterday after his nearest rival, Carlos Sainz, of Spain, hit a sheep on the opening stage of the day.

Rugby: John Bentley, the injured England rugby union wing, is likely to miss four weeks of the Stones Super League and the start of the union season.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Whether to double or bid on is often a difficult decision. But it was not the case on today's hand.

Dealer South Game all N-S+40 Rubber bridge

North:
♠A 8 5
♥A 9 7 6
♦J 10 8 7 6
♣Q

West:
♠Q J 4
♥2
♦A K 9 3 2
♣J 7 6 3

East:
♠K 9 2
♥J 8 3
♦Q 4
♣K 10 5 4 2

South:
♠10 7 6 3
♥K Q 10 5 4
♦5
♣A 9 8

S	W	N	E
Pass	1 D	Pass	1 NT
2 H	3 C	3 H	5 C
Pass	Pass	5 H	Double
All Pass			

Contract: Five Hearts doubled, by South. Lead: ace of diamonds.

West was the Australian expert Bob Richman. I was South. Note that after my intervention with Two Hearts over East's 1NT response, West's bid of Three Clubs was not strong — it was just competing the partscore. I discussed this point at some length in a recent Weekend column.

Clearly North had to bid Three Hearts. Now East's hand began to look good. If his partner had a singleton heart, all East's high cards were in the right places. Nevertheless, I don't think his hand was worth more than Four Clubs. Maybe he realised the mess of the auction North-South were about to make.

By most objective standards my pass of Five Clubs was impeccable. But I was playing with a keen but inexperienced player, one of whose many weaknesses is to bid on too much. For that reason I should have doubled Five Clubs.

When Five Clubs went back to North he made a poor bid. He has excellent defence — two aces and good control of diamonds, and possibilities of scoring the queen of clubs. In addition, as South was not able to open the bidding, making eleven tricks in hearts was unlikely. I score Double at 10 out of 10, Pass at 7 and Five Hearts at 0. Best defence takes Five Clubs two off; I was lucky to escape for one off in Five Hearts.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Favourites through

Early play in the Smith & Williamson British Chess Championship at Hove saw the favourites by and large power through. Particularly impressive was Jon Speelman's spectacular win against Charles Cobb.

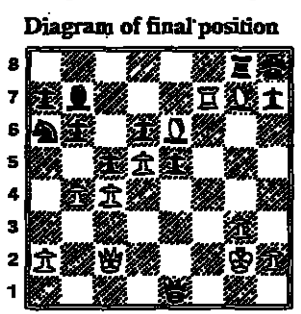
Among those top players who failed to make their mark were former British champions Tony Miles and Matthew Sadler, who drew respectively with Roktim and Walker.

White: Jon Speelman
Black: Charles Cobb
British Championship,
August 1997

Queen's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	Nf3	e6
3	g3	b6
4	Bg2	Bb7
5	c4	Be7
6	0-0	0-0
7	Nc3	Ne4
8	Bd2	f5
9	d5	Bf6
10	Rc1	Na6
11	Be1	Nac5
12	Nd4	Nxc3
13	Bxc3	e5
14	Nxf5	Bg5
15	f4	Rxf5
16	Qc2	Rf8
17	fxg5	Qxg5
18	b4	Na6
19	Bd2	Qh5
20	Bf3	Qe8
21	Be4	Qh5
22	Rf3	d6
23	Rcf1	Rxf3
24	Bxf3	Qh3
25	Be4	Qh5
26	Bf5	Kh8
27	Be6	c5
28	Rf7	Qxe2
29	Bh6	Qe1+
30	Kg2	Rg8
31	Bxg7+	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



After 31 ... Rxg7, 32 Rf8+ Rg8, 33 Rxg8 is mate. If Black had earlier captured White's queen with 29 ... Qxe2 then 30 Bxg7+ Kg8, 31 Re7 is also mate.

Top results

TOP FIRST ROUND RESULTS: Chris Ward beat Nicolas Pert, Michael Adams beat Ruth Sheldon, Jon Speelman beat Charles Cobb, Mark Hebden beat Ian Thompson and John Emms beat Michael Barnes

Mind challenge

To coincide with the first Mind Sports Olympiad, *The Times* will be publishing daily mind challenges for the next two weeks with £10,000 worth of prizes. Today's challenges are backgammon and IQ. The Mind Sports Olympiad takes place at the Royal Festival Hall from August 18 to 24, information on 0171-703 2828.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

LAT
a. A latrine
b. A column
c. A strip of board

METIF
a. An accent
b. Elevenses
c. A half-breed

MOTMOT
a. An epigram
b. A bird
c. Hurry up!

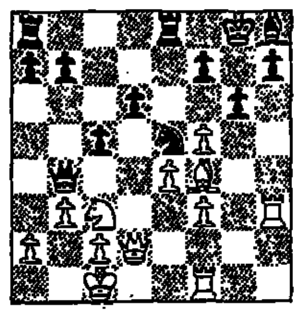
LITERATA
a. Writings
b. A literary lady
c. Facts

Answers on page 41

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Emms - Summerscale, Drury Lane 1997. Can you calculate the powerful sequence by which White smashed open his opponent's kingside?



Solution on page 41

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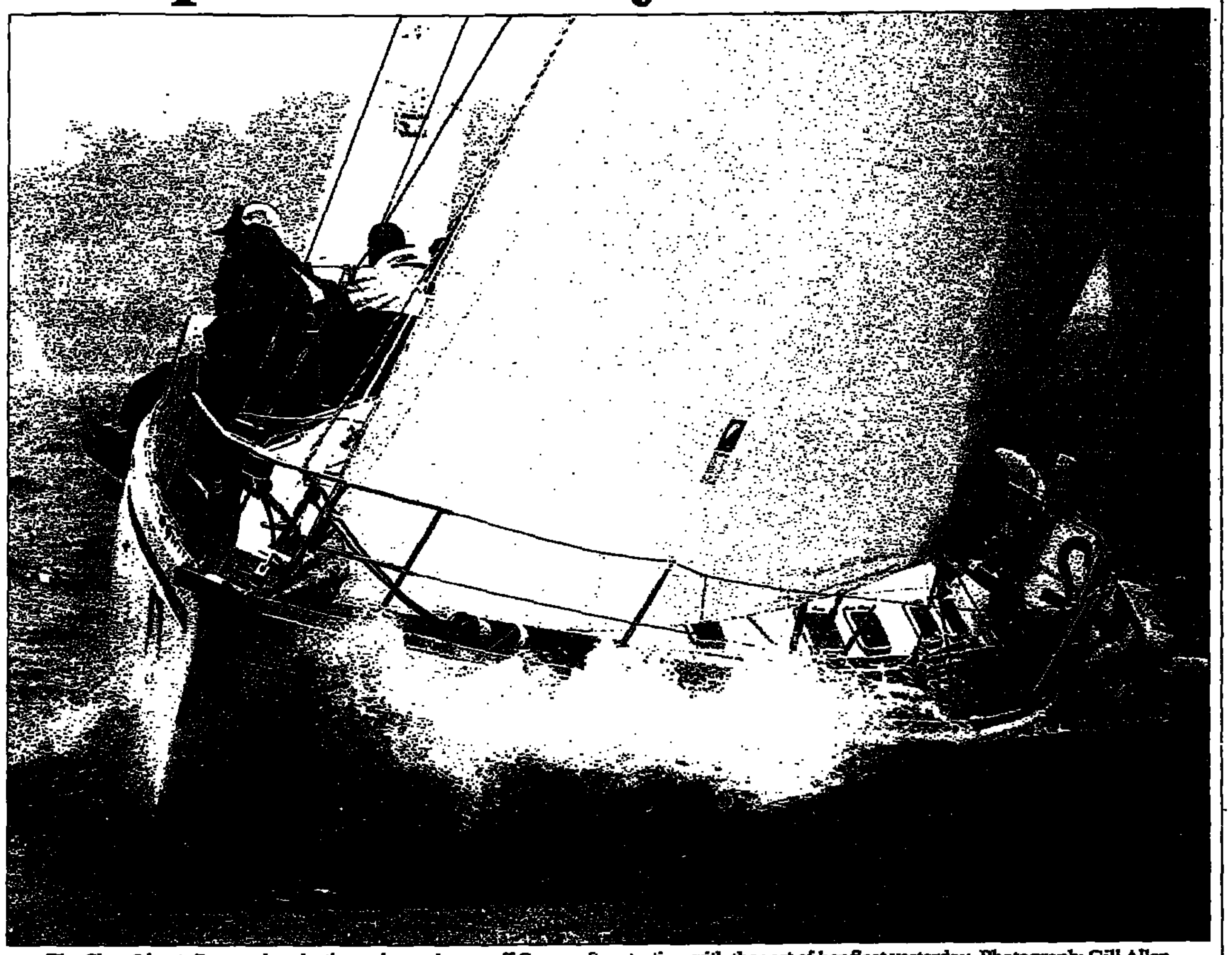
SAILING: HUNTERS REVEL IN LIMELIGHT DESPITE CANCELLATION OF RACING AT COWES WEEK

Wood keeps weather eye on new fleet

By Edward Gorman
Sailing Correspondent



The Class 2 boat, *Space*, ploughs through rough seas off Cowes after starting with the rest of her fleet yesterday. Photograph: Gill Allen

FOR Nick Wood and his four crew members on *Emu Excursion* it was another frustrating day at Skandia Life Cowes Week yesterday. The painted cartoon emu that adorns the side of the coachroof on Wood's Hunter 707 hardly got any exercise at all, as bad weather again disrupted the regatta.

In the morning Wood and the crews of the other 43 Hunters — the newest and fastest-growing class at Cowes — did not even leave the dock after race officers postponed their start because of imminent squalls and thunderstorms threatening the eastern Solent. When they finally got out to the start-line in the early afternoon, racing was again cancelled.

In the event, only 14 of the 30 classes got away yesterday with the Hunters and most of the other small boats deprived of racing for another day. Some of them have only managed one race so far in four days. The Hunters' owners, however, already have two results on their cards and are clearly revelling in their first chance to race together as a class at the world's biggest regatta.

Watching them running downwind at up to 15 knots along the mainland shore on Monday, it was hard to believe that two years ago only the prototype was sailing at Cowes. Since then more than 100 have been built.

The secret — apart from the cost, which compares favourably with the Glenfiddich Melges 24 — has been the decision by the class officers to keep the Hunters for ordinary sailors and not to allow sponsorship and the semi-professionlism that it brings. While the Melges are making a splash at the regatta, with the Island Sailing Club plastered in Glenfiddich signs, the Hunters are quietly tucked away at the UK Sailing Academy up the river.

Wood, a professional photographer from south London, who is sailing with what he calls his "cast of thousands" during the week, including his girlfriend, Rowena Jones, and bowman, Fred Burden, started with an eleventh and a tenth place and is lying comfortably in the top ten after racing on Sunday and Monday.

"It has been very close racing," he said. "In the first race the first nine boats went round the bottom mark within a minute of each other, after three hours of racing."

In both races, the Hunters made life difficult for race officers, when large numbers of over-eager skippers allowed themselves to be swept over the line early, forcing a general recall that delayed all the other classes waiting to get away after them. "The boats are so even," Wood said, "so you've got to get a good start to get clear wind and get away. A good start brings with it a big premium in a big fleet where you can't afford to get buried."

In the Champagne Mumm Admiral's Cup yesterday, races six and seven of the nine-race series saw the Great Britain team slip in the overall standings from third overall to equal fifth with the Italians. While the big boat, *Corum Indulgence*, had a good day in Christchurch Bay, scoring a second and a fifth place, and the Mumm 36 was placed fifth and then first, the ILC 40, *Easy Oars*, had two poor results.

However, although there are only two races left, there is everything still to play for with the Fastnet, which starts on Saturday, counting for more points than any other. In the overall standings, Britain is only 12 points behind Germany in second place and 27 points behind the United States, who hold the lead.

In the most dramatic incident of the day, the American big boat, *Flash Gordon 3*, lost her bowman, David Marvin, overboard while rounding a leeward mark in race one. It took her crew, skippered by Ken Read, two attempts before they managed to get him back by which time they had lost two minutes, which was enough to demote them to last place on handicap in that race.

FOOTBALL

Hoddle refuses to panic over loss of Shearer

By Russell Kempson and Ian Whittell

IF Glenn Hoddle is still in mourning over the loss of Alan Shearer and Robbie Fowler because of injury, he hides it well. With vital World Cup qualifying matches against Moldova and Italy ahead, it would not do for the England coach to be overly or overtly pessimistic.

Hoddle views the absence of Shearer, the Newcastle United forward, and Fowler, the Liverpool striker, as mere windows of opportunity for others. And anyway, Shearer was a non-playing substitute when England beat Italy 2-0 in the Tournoi de France, in Nantes, two months ago.

"We would obviously want Alan to play, it would be foolish to think otherwise," Hoddle said yesterday. "Our chances of winning have got to be less without him. But we have the strength in depth to overcome that, as we proved when we beat Italy before, and we have other options.

"At least it hasn't happened a few days before a game and we already know he won't be available. It's a blow — he's one of the best strikers in the world — but it's a great chance for others to show what they can do."

Hoddle's upbeat mood was understandable, with he and his coaching staff — John Gorman, Peter Taylor and Ray Clemence — signing a four-year kit sponsorship deal, for an undisclosed six-figure sum, with Mitre Sports International. Hoddle will wear the firm's products only when it does not conflict with the Football Association's agreement with Umbro.

Shay Given, the Ireland and former Blackburn Rovers goalkeeper, will cost Newcastle £1.5 million, an independent tribunal decided yesterday. The fee for Kyle Lightbourne's move from Walsall to Coventry City was set at £500,000, plus £50,000 after 20 first-team appearances. Walsall had asked for £1 million.

Bobby Gould, the Wales manager, will tonight have his contract extended for another two years.

Chris Hay, 22, the Celtic forward, has joined Swindon Town, the Nationwide League first division club, for £330,000. The unhappy end to Paulo Di Canio's Celtic career will come today when the Italian is expected to compelte a £3 million move to Sheffield Wednesday. The striker will fly into Britain from Italy, where he has been recuperating after medical specialists diagnosed him as suffering from stress.

Di Canio's agent, Favio Parisi, said: "He always looked upon Celtic as a stepping stone to the Premiership. He has always wanted to play in England and we are talking to Sheffield with Celtic's permission."

Hoddle: upbeat mood

Sheffield Wednesday's Dutch winger, Regi Blinker, 28, makes the trip in the opposite direction, valued at £1.5 million, for a reunion with Wim Jansen, his former coach at Feyenoord.

David Pleat, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, said: "It's a good move for him. When you are his age and a foreigner, you need to be playing regular first-team football and I couldn't guarantee him that."

On a busy day, Pleat also sold Orlando Trustfull, the Dutch midfield player, to Vitesse Arnhem for £800,000 and took Antonio Crinetti, the Italian midfield player, on trial from Brescia.

Chelsea look to Gullit for future guidance

By Brian Glanville

CHELSEA are to try to secure the services of Ruud Gullit to guide them into the next century. The Dutch player-manager's contract runs out this year and the club hopes to begin talks with him soon with a view to signing him up until at least the millennium.

Gullit said yesterday that he had had no feelers from clubs in Italy this summer and relations with Colin Hutchinson, the Chelsea chief executive, seemed very cordial. So cordial, Hutchinson said, that Gullit did not even bother to pick his wage cheques up for two months.

Hutchinson also revealed that there had been no offers made for Gianluca Vialli, the Italy striker, who spent much of last season out of the first team. "No club has come in for Vialli," he said.

Gullit, himself, is reluctant to discuss the plight of the £20,000-a-week forward. "I'm not going to think about it any more," he said. "I think we are one team and there's 22 players and everybody must be tuned in."

Gullit confirmed that Chelsea will be switching from a three-man to a four-man defence this season. "The great thing is we can play whatever we like. We can play with three back, four back, with three up front. It doesn't matter so much which we play," he said.

EQUESTRIANISM

Rules unsaddle Skelton

By Jenny MacArthur

NICK SKELTON, a regular member of the British showjumping team since 1980, is to be dropped from the squad for the European championships to be held in Germany later this month. The Warwickshire-based rider, who won three European team gold medals and an individual silver medal at the 1986 world championships, has failed to qualify under the controversial new selection process.

Under the rules, which are designed to open up selection, four trials were held with the best three rider-horse combinations qualifying for the team. Clear rounds in any of the three Nations Cup events, which conflicted with the trials, also counted in a rider's tally of points. The selectors have the right to nominate riders for the final two places.

Michael Whitaker, Robert Smith and Di Lampard, who all compete with Skelton at the Kerrygold Dublin Horse Show this week, are the three qualifiers. Geoff Billington, with It's Otto, and John Whitaker, with Welham, two consistent partnerships, are almost certain to be nominated, on Monday, for the other two places.

Skelton, 39, who has one of the best young horses in Europe in Tinka's Boy, finished third in the team trial at Hickstead and last weekend had a double-clear round in the victorious British team in the Gijon Nations Cup in Spain. His decision to miss the third trial at Peterborough three weeks ago, though — because he was preparing for his own show, which started two days later — has cost him dearly.

"I've got one of the best horses I've ever had and he's going better than ever, but they made the rules and I'm not in," a bitterly disappointed Skelton said yesterday.

Michael Bullman, the chairman of the selectors, speaking from the Budapest Show yesterday, said: "With his horse and his ability, Nick would be very valuable on any team in any country in the world. The system has not worked in his favour."

Skelton's loss is Smith and Lampard's gain. One of them will take his place at the championships, unless they lose form over the next three weeks. Both are under scrutiny in Dublin. Lampard competes as an individual, with Abbervail Dream, while Smith is one of five from which the team for the Nations Cup on Friday will be chosen. Skelton, John and Michael Whitaker and Billington complete the squad.

ROWING

Delayed start for juniors

From Mike Rosewell in Hazewinkel, Belgium

A SMALLER than usual British team, just seven boats, is in Belgium for the world junior championships, which start here today.

Of the five men's boats, the British eight contains the most experience and includes Toby Gayner and Ed Russell, who were in the same boat last year, which won a bronze medal.

Two other experienced internationals, Dan Ouseley, from the 1996 coxless four, and Robert Sanders, from the coxless pair, are also in the crew, which is coxed by Adam Moffatt, from Agecroft, who at 13, is likely to be the youngest competitor from any country.

Bruce Grainger, of Eton, who had a year off from international duty in 1996, is back as the coach of the eight.

Michael Martin, of Abingdon, who coached the 1996 medal-winning eight, takes over the coxless four in which Johnathon Keech is a survivor from the 1996 crew that lost out on a medal in a blanket finish to the final.

The leading men's sculling crew is the double of James Di Luzio and Matthew Wells, first and second in the national schools singles this year. Di Luzio was in the British double that finished eleventh last year, but he and Wells won at the Munich junior regatta to boost their confidence.

The junior double was second in the British senior national championships, beating the British Under-23 double in the process.

Then there is the women's pair of Isabel Walker, from Scotland, and 6ft 4in Frances Houghton, from Canterbury. Consistently the top British women's junior pair this year, they found the Poles and Germans too good for them in Munich. The Germans have since been moved into a four.

Britain's involvement today will be limited to an opening ceremony appearance. There are opening heats in the women's eights, but Britain has no entry.

TEAM: Junior men's eight: A Rivers (Eton), E Starck (King's Canterbury), R Sanders (RGS, Newcastle), C Martin (Hampton), R Cantwell (Radley), D Ouseley (St Paul's), T Gayner (Radley), E Russell (Abingdon). Cox: A Moffatt (Agecroft) Junior men's coxless four: R Baxter-Wareman (St Paul's), J Keech (Hampton), C Hobcroft (King's Chester), W Medling (Bedford) Junior men's coxed pair: T Brunner (Eton), T Hewins (Hampton). Cox: J Brookes (Shrewsbury). Junior men's double scull: J Di Luzio (Mortlake Anglian), M Wells (Queen Elizabeth High School) Junior men's quadruple scull: R Howgego (Leander), S Riley (Durham Amateur), R Jones (Nottingham County), M Baker (Leander)
Junior women's coxless pair: F Houghton (King's Canterbury), I Walker (George Watson's College). Junior women's coxless four: V Pirie (Lady Eleanor Holles), R Carstake (Warwick), C Kepinska (Headington), K Stewart (Headington).

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Atlanta 6 Pittsburgh 0 San Francisco 9 Cincinnati 1; Florida 4 Houston 1 Philadelphia 7 Colorado 3; New York Mets 4 St Louis 2

AMERICAN LEAGUE: New York Yankees 5 Kansas City 4: Cleveland 7 Detroit 2, Minnesota 9 Toronto 3, Boston 11 Texas 5; Milwaukee 5 Anaheim 2.

BOWLS

LEAMINGTON SPA: English women's inter-county championship: Final: Yorkshire bt Somerset 122-107

CRICKET

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (final day of two): Pontarddulais: Wales 123-6 Herefordshire 107-4. Match drawn Rover Cowley: Oxfordshire 183-4 and 140-3 (S V Laudat 74, B C A Ellison 51 not out). Cheshire 97-2 (R G Hignett 62) and 152-7 Match drawn Lakenham (first day of two). Norfolk 197 (C Amos 51) Staffordshire 128-7

CYCLING

TOUR OF PORTUGAL: Eighth stage (Torre to Belmonte, 130 1km): 1, M Ladomada (It) 3hr 31min 01sec; 2, J Gomes (Port) at 44sec; 3, W Belli (It) same time; 4, V Bobrik (Russ) at 1.29, 5, Z Jakusia (Pol) same time Leading overall positions: 1, Belli 28 17.29s; 2, Jakusia at 23sec. 3, Ladomada at 38sec

FOOTBALL

Monday's late results

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Rangers 3 Heart of Midlothian 1

PRE-SEASON GAMES: Crewe 1 Liverpool 3, Notts County 1 Nottingham Forest 6, Worcester City 2 Swindon XI 3, Swindon 1 Manchester United XI 1; Charlton 1 West Ham 1, Huddersfield 1 Sheffield Wednesday 0; Stevenage 1 Chelsea 3; Farnborough 0 Southampton 0; Newry 2 Drogheda United 1; Daventry 0 Leicester City 4, Stamford 1 Boston United 3; Hendon 0 Barnet 1; Gainsborough 1 Chesterfield 1, Chesham 0 Wycombe 3, Billericay 2 Millwall 1, Blyth Spartans 1 Leeds United 1; Woking 2 Tottenham XI 3; Hednesford 0 Birmingham City 1; Norwich City 2 Arsenal 6; Derby County 0 Sampdoria 1, Bromley 3 Crystal Palace XI 0; Harrogate Town 0 Burnley 7; Oswestry 0 Shrewsbury 2.

GLIDING

TIBENHAM, Norfolk: National 18 metre championship: Final day (169km poly; no completions): 1, F Davies (LS6) 150 9km, 407pts 2. Dobson (LS6) 146.6, 392 3 J Burry (LS6) 145.9, 390; 4, A Clarke (Ventus C) 145 7, 389 Leading final positions: 1, Clarke 4,971pts; 2, Davies 4,702 3 Burry 4,669, 4, B Nicholson (Ventus 2) 4,649.

HOCKEY

HARARE: Women's World Cup qualifying tournament: Pool A: South Africa 4 Canada 1; India 3 Japan 2: England 3 Ireland 1

MOTOR RALLYING

RALLY OF NEW ZEALAND: Leading final positions: 1, K Eriksson (Swe, Subaru Impreza) 4hr 14min 11sec; 2, C Sainz (Sp, Ford Escort) at 13sec; 3, J Kankkunen (Fin, Ford Escort) 19; 4, R Burns (GB, Mitsubishi Carisma) 1min 18sec, 5, P Bourne (NZ, Subaru Impreza) 5 54; 6, N Bates (Aus, Toyota Celica) 11:22 Leading world championship positions: Drivers: 1, T Makinen (Fin, Mitsubishi) 42pts, 2, Sainz 34; 3, C McRae (GB, Subaru) 32 Constructors: 1, Subaru 74, 2, Mitsubishi 56; 3, Ford 55

RUGBY LEAGUE

WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Group A: Halifax 10 Brisbane 54 Quarter-final draw: Wigan v Hunter Mariners: London v Cronulla: Brisbane v St Helens or Paris: Auckland v Bradford. Ties to be played on October 4 or 5. European qualifying match (St Helens v Paris) to be played Aug 13.

SAILING

ADMIRAL'S CUP: Corum Trophy: IMS (big boat): First race: 1, Numbers (NZ) 1 23 15. 2 Ragamuffin (Aus) 1 23 18 3, Rubin XIV (Ger) 1 23 51; 4 Flash Gordon 3 (US) 1 23 53 5, Corum Indulgence (GB) 1 23 57, 6, Madina Milano (It) 1 24 00; 7, Investor (Scandinavia) 1 24 30 Second race: 1, Flash Gordon 3 1 29 42: 2. Numbers 1 30.25 3. Corum Indulgence 1 30 44; 4, Ragamuffin 1 31 35 5. Madina Milano 1:31 45. 6. Rubin XIV 1:33 10, 7, Investor 1 33 14 ILC 40 Class: First race: 1. Mean Machine (NZ) 1 27 53; 2. Pinta (Ger) 1:28 57 3. MKCafe (US) 1:30.21; 4, G'Net (Aus) 1 30 51; 5. Easy Oars (GB) 1 31 09. 6. Brava Q8 (It) 1:32.14, 7 Fram XIV (Scan) 1 33 10 Second race: 1, Mean Machine 1 37 56 2. Pinta 1:38 18. 3. Brava Q8 1:38.46 4. Easy Oars 1:39 16. 5. G'Net 1 39 23. 6. MKCafe 1:39 46. Fram XIV did not start. Mumm 36 Class: First race: 1. Breeze (It) 1:36 44 2. Jameson (US) 1 37 06, 3, Bradamante (GB) 1.37.58, 4. Sea (Aus) 1.38.07 5. Georgia Express 2 (NZ) 1 38.35, 6. Thomas I Punkt (Ger) 1 38 54; 7. Mumm-a-Mia (Scan) 1.40 00 Second race: 1. Breeze 1·47 48; 2. Jameson 1 48 15. 3. Sea 1 48.27; 4. Bradamante 1 48.35; 5, Mumm-a-Mia (Scan) 1·49 08: 6, Thomas I Punkt (Ger) 1 51 44, 7. Georgia Express 2 (NZ) 2.05.29 Overall positions: 1, US 56.25; 2. Great Britain 75.00; 3, New Zealand 75.63; 4, Germany 82.75. 5, Italy 87.50

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: Wolverhampton 47 King's Lynn 42

PREMIER LEAGUE: Isle of Wight 47 Glasgow 43; Newcastle 52 Long Eaton 38; Reading 54 Oxford 36

SEVERN BRIDGE TROPHY: First leg: Exeter 43 Newport 34.

AMATEUR LEAGUE: Reading and Swindon 40 Oxford 38

TENNIS

CINCINNATI: Men's tournament: First round: J Stark (US) bt G Rusedski (GB) 1-6, 6-3, 7-6; M Damm (Cz) bt G Raoux (Fr) 6-4, 7-6, T Woodbridge (Aus) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 3-6, 7-6, 6-3; A Medvedev (Ukr) bt T Henman (GB) 6-3, 6-3. M Woodforde (Aus) bt O Delaitre (Fr) 6-2, 3-6, 6-0.

SAN MARINO: Men's tournament: First round: A Berasategui (Sp) bt D Nargiso (It) 6-3, 6-4; J Marin (Sp) bt E Grossi (It) 7-5, 6-1; A Martin (Sp) beat D Scala (It) 6-4, 6-2; A Gaudenzi (It) bt L Morejon (Ecuador) 6-4, 6-3

MONDAY'S LATE RACING RESULTS

Windsor

Going: good

6.05 (1m 67yd) 1, **Super Serenade** (F Tynan, 10-1); 2, Rocky Waters (20-1); 3, Oozlem (8-1), 4, Pc's Cruiser (16-1) Queen Of Shannon 11-2 fav. 18 ran 3½l, ½l G Balding Tote: £19.90; £3 10, £5 00, £2 60, £2 80 DF, £266.30 Trio: £456 80 CSF £193 36 Tricast £1,611.61

6.35 (1m 2f 7yd) 1, **Fantastic Flame** (S Sanders, 8-1), 2, Aerleon Pete (10-1). 3, Sturgeon (8-1) Easy Song 11-10 fav 15 ran 2l, 2½l P Makin. Tote: £7.30; £2.10, £3 80 £2 40 DF £220 20. Trio £66 50 CSF £84 89

7.05 (5f 217yd) 1, **Speedfit Too** (G Carter, 9-2), 2, Legs Be Frendly (7-2 fav); 3, Canonize (20-1). 22 ran NR: Arian Da, Memorial 2½l, nk G Margarson. Tote: £5 90; £2 10, £1 60, £6 40 DF £9 30 Trio £109 60. CSF £19 33

7.35 (1m 3f 135yd) 1, **Koraloona** (S Drowne, 5-1); 2, Isitoff (11-2), 3, Newport Knight (11-2) Princess Danielle 4-1 fav 11 ran Nk, nk G Balding Tote £7.40; £2.30, £1 90, £1 90 DF: £18.10 Trio £38 80 CSF £30 93. Tricast: £146 58

8.05 (5f 10yd) 1, **Distinctive Dream** (Martin Dwyer, 7-2 fav), 2, Sound The Trumpet (25-1); 3, Mousehole (8-1) 14 ran, 2l, hd K Ivory. Tote £4 20, £2 30, £5 30, £2 60 DF £141 40 Trio £427.80 CSF £101 77. Tricast £638 87

8.35 (1m 67yd) 1, **Alphabet** (J Reid, 15-8 fav); 2, Khazinat El Dar (2-1); 3, Northern Angel (3-1) 7 ran ½l, 8l M Stoute. Tote: £3.20; £1 90, £2.00. DF, £3 60 CSF £5 54.

Jackpot: £20,665.50.

Placepot: £167.00. Quadpot: £9.40.

Carlisle

Going: good to firm (good in places)

6.20 (7f 214yd) 1, **Euro Sceptic** (R Winston 6-1 jt-fav) 2, Sparky (6-1 jt-fav), 3, Running Green (10-1) Thatched 6-1 jt-fav 14 ran. 1l, 2½l T Easterby Tote: £5 00; £2.20, £1.90, £6 10 DF £9 80 Trio: £87 00 CSF £35 68 Tricast £337 81.

6.50 (5f) 1, **Selkirk Rose** (K Darley, Evens fav) 2, Three Star Rated (16-1) 3, Rio (14-1) 9 ran. ¾l, 1¾l. Miss L Perratt Tote £1 90; £1 10, £4 80 £2 40 DF, £25.50. Trio £52 70 CSF £19 64.

7.20 (5f 207yd) 1, **Hever Golf Mover** (J Weaver, 4-1 jt-fav), 2, Lamorna (5-1); 3, Ginny Wossername (50-1). King Uno 4-1 jt-fav. 12 ran. 3½l, 1l T Naughton. Tote £5.80; £2.00, £1 60, £9 40 DF £13 30 Trio: £261 00 CSF £21 26 Tricast £807 62.

7.50 (1m 4f) 1, **Al's Alibi** (K Fallon, 5-1), 2, Tajar (5-1) 3, Globe Runner (5-1). Stoke Casinos Boy 9-4 fav 7 ran 2½l 2l W Muir Tote: £5.90; £3.50, £2.20 DF £19 30 CSF £28 97

8.20 (6f 206yd) 1, **Nant Y Gamer** (C Lowther, 11-10 fav); 2, Davis Rock (11-8); 3, Patina (10-1) 6 ran. 2l, 4l. J Berry Tote £2 10, £1.40, £1.20. DF £1.70 CSF £2 53

8.50 (6f 206yd) 1, **Surf City** (A Culhane, 11-2), 2, Don't Worry Mike (16-1). 3 Hi Mujtahid (5-4 fav) 10 ran NR Tazibari ¾l, 1l W Haigh. Tote £5 30; £1 40, £2 80, £1 30 DF £36 60 Trio £33 50 CSF £81 92

Placepot: £143.60. Quadpot: £33.60.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Bell's Scottish League
Second division
Inverness CT v Livingston
Stranraer v Clyde

OTHER MATCH: Celtic v AS Roma (7.45).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: West Ham v Millwall (at Southend United FC, 7.45)

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, first day of four 104 overs minimum
CANTERBURY: Kent v Essex
BLACKPOOL: Lancashire v *Warwickshire*
LORD'S: Middlesex v Hampshire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Worcestershire
TAUNTON: Somerset v Gloucestershire
THE OVAL: Surrey v Durham
EASTBOURNE: Sussex v Leicestershire

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (second day of four): Southampton: Hampshire v Gloucestershire; Studley: Warwickshire v Glamorgan (first day of three) Seaton Carew: Durham v Kent. Lutterworth CC: Leicester v Northamptonshire. Southgate CC: Middlesex v Lancashire; Worksop College: Nottinghamshire v Somerset. Oxted: Surrey v Essex, Barnt Green: Worcestershire v Sussex.

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (final day of two) Finchampstead: Berkshire v Cheshire. (first day of two): March: Cambridgeshire v Hertfordshire: Lakenham: Norfolk v Bedfordshire; Bury St Edmunds: Suffolk v Staffordshire

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: EWBA national championships (at Leamington)

EQUESTRIANISM: Dublin Horse Show.

GOLF: British Seniors Open amateur championship (at Sherwood Forest)

SAILING: Skandia Life Cowes Week.

TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (at Southsea).

RESULTS FROM [illegible]

Men

400 metres

Final

1, M Johnson (US) 44 12sec; 2, D Kamoga (Uga) 44 37; 3, T Washington (US) 44 39; 4, M Richardson (GB) 44.47; 5, J Young (US) 44.51; 6, I Thomas (GB) 44.52; 7, A Pettigrew (US) 44.57; 8, J Baulch (GB) 45.22

800 metres

Second round

First three in each heat plus overall four fastest losers qualify to semi-finals

QUALIFIERS: Heat one: 1, M Koers (Holl) 1min 46.52sec; 2, P Ndururi (Ken) 1·46.56; 3, B Lahlou (Mor) 1:46.63. Heat two: 1, N Tellez (Cuba) 1·44.82; 2, H Sepeng (SA) 1:44.91: 3, M Everett (US) 1:44.95; 4, A Hecini (Alg) 1:45.19; 5, A Bucher (Switz) 1:45 33; 6, T O Oedegaard (Nor) 1:45.42; 7, M Yagoub (Sudan) 1·45 73 Non-qualifier: 8, D Matthews (Ire) 1:46.65. Heat three: 1, V Rodal (Nor) 1·46 43; 2, P Konchellah (Ken) 1:46.43: 3, R Kenah (US) 1·46 48. Non-qualifier: 8, A Hart (GB) 1:48 03. Heat four: 1, W Kipketer (Den) 1:45.54; 2, P Stroubakos (Gr) 1:45.94; 3, K Osei (Gha) 1·46.00.

110 metres hurdles

First round

First five in each heat plus overall four fastest losers qualify to second round

QUALIFIERS: Heat one: 1, D Philibert (Fr) 13 43sec; 2, A Johnson (US) 13 52; 3, R Kronberg (Swe) 13.70, 4, R Korving (Holl) 13 80; 5, G Gundersen (Nor) 13 83 Heat two: 1, A Kohutek (Pol) 13 37, 2, A Garcia (Cuba) 13.46; 3, A Tulloch (GB) 13.69; 4, F Balzer (Ger) 13 70; 5, H Grossard (Bel) 13.74; 6, T Reese (US) 13.79. Heat three: 1, I Kovac (Slovakia) 13.36, 2, S Thibault (Fr) 13 50; 3, T Scigaczewski (Pol) 13 61; 4, A Kislykh (Russ) 13.67, 5, S Olijar (Lat) 13 79 Heat four: 1, A Jarrett (GB) 13.35; 2, V Clarico (Fr) 13 51; 3, R Mehlich (Pol) 13.65, 4, M Fenner (Ger) 13.67; 5, S Pieters (Bel) 13 67 Heat five: 1, F Schwarthoff (Ger) 13.44, 2, R Torian (US) 13 51. 3, K Vander-Kuyp (Aus) 13 61, 4, G Peders (Lat) 13.73; 5, P Chiamulera (Br) 13.93. Non-qualifier: 6, P Coghlan (Ire) 13 94. Heat six: 1, C Jackson (GB) 13 19; 2, M Crear (US) 13 46; 3, J Nsenga (Bel) 13.53: 4, A Haapakoski (Fin) 13 75; 5, E Lichtenegger (Austria) 13 78; 6, J Naivalu (Fiji) 13.82.

Second round

First three in each heat plus overall four fastest losers qualify to semi-finals

QUALIFIERS: Heat one: 1, Crear 13.15; 2, Jackson 13 19; 3, Korving 13.44. Heat two: 1, Johnson 13.22; 2, Kohutek 13.27; 3, Philibert 13.33; 4, Balzer 13.37; 5, Nsenga 13.50. Non-qualifier: Tulloch 13.63. Heat three: 1, Jarrett 13.27; 2, Garcia 13.46; 3, Vander-Kuyp 13.53. Heat four: 1, Kovac 13.23; 2, Reese 13 30; 3, Schwarthoff 13.30; 4, Clarico 13.41; 5, Kislykh 13.43.

Long jump

Final

1, I Pedroso (Cuba) 8.42m; 2, E Walder (US) 8.38; 3, K Sosunov (Russ) 8.18; 4, J Beckford (Jam) 8.14; 5, N Ferreira Jr (Br) 8.04; 6, A Glavatski (Bela) 8 03; 7, C Toure (Sen) 7.98; 8, K Dilworth (US) 7.88, 9, M Morinaga (Japan) 7.86; 10, Lao Jianfeng (China) 7.78; 11, B Tudor (Rom) 7.66. No mark recorded: M Wignall (Jam).

Javelin

Final

1, M Corbett (SA) 88.40m; 2, S Backley (GB) 86.80; 3, K Gatzioudis (Gr) 86.64; 4, M Hill (GB) 86 54; 5, S Makarov (Russ) 86.32; 6, B Henry (Ger) 84.54; 7, E Gonzalez (Cuba) 83.56; 8, A Parviainen (Fin) 82.80; 9, J Zelezny (Cz) 82.04; 10, G Hogler (Austria) 81.56; 11, A Moruyev (Russ) 81.38; 12, P Boden (Swe) 80.66.

Women

1,500 metres

Final

1, C Sacramento (Por) 4min 4.24sec; 2, R Jacobs (US) 4:04.63; 3, A Weyermann (Switz) 4:04.70, 4, M Zuniga (Sp) 4:04 80; 5, L Pells (Can) 4:06.18; 6, A Suldesova (Cz) 4:06.33; 7, O Nelyubova (Russ) 4:07.34; 8, S O'Sullivan (Ire) 4:07.81; 9, K Dulecha (Eth) 4:08.15; 10, M Ewerlof (Swe) 4:08.68; 11, R Meagher (Can) 4.10.83; 12, M Rydz (Pol) 4:13.25.

10,000 metres

Final

1, S Barsosio (Ken) 31min 32.92sec; 2, F Ribeiro (Por) 31:39.15; 3, M Chiba (Japan) 31:41.93; 4, B Adere (Eth) 31.48.95; 5, Ren Xiujuan (China) 31:50.83; 6, T Loroupe (Ken) 32:00.93; 7, Yong Siu (China) 32:01.61; 8, C de Reuck (SA) 32:03.81; 9, S Sommaggio (It) 32:16.92; 10, C Takahashi (Japan) 32:23.61; 11, N Rocha (Mex) 32:34.58; 12, J Vaquero (Sp) 32:36 91; 13, A Peters (US) 32:43 38; 14, C Dallenbach (Fr) 32:51.20; 15, A Sandell (Fin) 33:00.11; 16, H Masuda (Japan) 33:03.14; 17, E Meyer (SA) 33:05.82. Did not finish: G Wami (Eth), M Rendas (Bel) and Z Dahmani (Fr).

400 metres hurdles

First round

First three in each heat plus overall four fastest losers qualify to semi-finals

QUALIFIERS: Heat one: 1, D Hemmings (Jam) 54.42sec; 2, S Gunnell (GB) 54.53; 3, E Goossens (Holl) 54.84; 4, A Blackett (Bar) 55.28 Heat two: 1, T Tereshchuk (Ukr) 55.17; 2, T. Buford-Bailey (US) 55.25; 3, A Knoroz (Russ) 55.34; 4, M Alonso (Sp) 55.57; 5, G Amardottir (Ice). 55.76. Heat three: 1, K Batten (US) 54.56; 2, S Smith (Ire) 54.61; 3, Y Bakhvalova (Russ) 55.08; 4, K Haughton (Jam) 55.27. Heat four: 1, N Bidouane (Mor) 55.53; 2, S Rieger (Ger) 55.64; 3, D Parris (Jam) 55.84.

Discus

Qualifying

18.80 metres or leading 12 qualify for final

QUALIFIERS: Group A: 1, C Price-Smith (US) 18.35m; 2, N Kleinert (Ger) 18.26; 3, S Storp (Ger) 18.12; 4, V Althouse (US) 17.89. Group B: 1, A Kumbernuss (Ger) 20.69; 2, V Pavlysh (Ukr) 20.48; 3, Zhihong Huang (China) 19.05; 4, S Krivelyova (Russ) 18.41; 5, S Mitkova (Bul) 18.07; 6, T Thompson (US) 18.07; 7, K Danilczyk (Pol) 18.05, 8, Meisu Li (China) 17.99. Non-qualifier: 9, Judy Oakes (GB) 17.84.

Discus

Qualifying

62.50 metres or leading 12 qualify for final

Qualifiers: Group A: 1, I Yatchenko (Bela) 65.00m; 2, B Faumuina (NZ) 64.58; 3, S Tsikouna (Gr) 61.52; 4, N Grasu (Rom) 60.44; 5, L Korotkevich (Russ) 60.30; 6, L-M Vizaniari (Aus) 60.28; 7, A Maffeis (It) 59.94. Non-qualifier: 11, S Drew (GB) 53.96. Group B: 1, E Zvereva (Bela) 65.94; 2, N Sadova (Russ) 65.14, 3, T Machado (Por) 61.30; 4, Zhili Luan (China) 61.18; 5, A Soderberg (Swe) 59.88.

TELEVISION: BBC2: Live 3.30pm-8.0pm. EUROSPORT: 6.0am-12.30pm, 3.0pm-7.30pm. Highlights: 9.30pm-11.0pm.

[illegible]

RACING: OAKS WINNER IN LINE FOR CLASH WITH STABLE-COMPANION BOSRA SHAM AT YORK

Reams Of Verse awaits International call

By Chris McGrath

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Reams Of Verse, the Oaks winner, stands by for a tilt at the Juddmonte International Stakes at York

RARELY has poetry been in such blurring motion as when Reams Of Verse won the Musidora Stakes by 11 lengths at York in the spring. Now there is every prospect of that entrancing image being revived, over the same course and distance, in the Juddmonte International Stakes in 13 days' time.

The filly's owner, Khaled Abdulla, sponsors the race — and he will make it another great one in what has already been a vintage summer, if allowing her to take on her illustrious stablemate, Bosra Sham, and the Derby winner, Benny The Dip. Singspiel and Entrepreneur are other top-class possibles. Yesterday the prince's racing manager, Grant Pritchard-Gordon, confirmed this splendid scenario to be "definitely in mind" for Reams Of Verse, though Yashmak and Kirkwall give them options.

After that spectacular York success, Reams Of Verse showed her mettle by winning a rough race for the Oaks. She was hampered coming down the hill before pouncing inside the final furlong: the level playing field of the Knavesmire, by contrast, evidently suits her galloping style, and there could even be a chance that the daughter of Nureyev will ultimately prove better still back at ten furlongs.

"It would give the prince enormous pleasure to win his own race," Pritchard-Gordon said. "But we will only have a runner if we have the right ammunition. We have three entries, and everything will be discussed with their trainers, Henry Cecil and André Fabre. Kirkwall has alternatives in France, while both fillies are in the Yorkshire Oaks and we could wait until the autumn with Yashmak."

Pritchard-Gordon gave every encouragement, however, that Reams Of Verse is in the form to be considered "the right ammunition". He said: "She had three races together fairly quickly in the first part of the season, and needed freshening up. The Guineas was a tough start for a filly with no early-season preparation, and then the Musidora and Oaks followed on top of each other. She was then being seriously considered for the Irish Oaks, but came into season at the wrong time. Now Henry is very pleased with her again, and she worked well on Saturday morning."

An invigorated Reams Of Verse would certainly provide a stern test of Singspiel's own powers of recovery. The holder of the European prize-money record finished punch-drunk at the end of another compelling showdown, when a brave fourth to Swain in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot.

That race was run in gruelling conditions, and the fact that Sheikh Mohammed is aiming him at the Breeders' Cup Classic confirms the view that Singspiel is ideally suited by a mile and a quarter if there is any emphasis on stamina. He may yet return to that trip at York, but Anthony Stroud, the sheikh's racing manager, said: "It is only ten days since Ascot, and we will just have to see how he is next week."

When Michael Stoute, Singspiel's trainer, arrived from Barbados it was to learn his trade at nearby Malton, and he duly has a great fondness for the Ebor meeting. Few things would give him more pleasure than to see Entrepreneur quench his Derby failure in the International, which Stoute has won previously with Ezzoud (in successive years) and Shardari.

Another man with reason to cherish the fixture is Robert Collet, who won the 1986 Nunthorpe Stakes with Last Tycoon. But the French trainer confirmed yesterday that Zelding — a speedy juvenile who carries the same colours as his dam's brilliant half-brother — will miss that race in favour of the Prix Morny on home soil.

Nap: WEETMAN'S WEIGH
(4.30 Newcastle)
Next best: Golden Pound
(3.15 Brighton)

BRIGHTON

THUNDERER
2.15 Shanthi. 2.45 Hoh Justice. 3.15 Golden Pound. 3.45 Colour Counsellor. 4.15 Bathe In Light. 4.45 Homestead.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.15 RINGMER SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £1,985: 6f 209yd) (5 runners)

1 (3) 000 DANCING AL 9 J S Moore 8-11 M Adams 88
2 (4) 062 JAYBEE SILVER 9 M Tompkins 8-6 D Biggs 96
3 (5) 00 SHALABELLA 25 M Channon 8-6 K Fallon —
4 (1) 3333 SHANTHI 9 (BF) P Makin 8-6 S Sanders [illegible]
5 (2) 80 SLEW MAGIC 12 (BF) W G M Turner 8-6 D Sweeney (3) 95

6-4 Shanthi, 7-4 Jaybee Silver, 4-1 Slew Magic, 10-1 Shalabella, 16-1 Dancing Al.

2.45 MARINA MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,992: 6f 209yd) (8)

1 (2) 2302 RON'S PET 8 R Hannon 8-12 Dane O'Neill [illegible]
2 (7) 0234 HOH JUSTICE 25 I Balding 8-10 S Whitworth 98
3 (4) 00 AEGEAN BREEZE 8 Gay Kelleway 8-9 K Fallon —
4 (5) 20 CONSTANT ATTENTION 14 P Cole 8-7 C Rutter 91
5 (8) 04U LIFE SENTENCE 13 J G Smyth-Osbourne 8-7 D Harrison 81
6 (3) 0 LAUREN'S LAD 41 G Lewis 8-6 Paul Eddery —
7 (1) 0 BLUE ZOLA 23 M Bell 8-6 S Sanders 84
8 (6) JONAS NIGHTENGALE C Cyzer 8-4 R Ffrench (3) —

2-1 Ron's Pet, 3-1 Hoh Justice, 7-2 Blue Zola, 6-1 Constant Attention, 10-1 Lauren's Lad, 14-1 Life Sentence, 20-1 Jonas Nightengale, 33-1 Aegean Breeze.

3.15 TOTE CREDIT SPRINT HANDICAP
(£3,455: 5f 213yd) (9)

1 (6) 6402 SHARP PEARL 14 (B,C,F) P R Webber 4-10-0 R Hughes 95
2 (5) 6445 GOLDEN POUND 14 (B,D,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 5-9-12 K Fallon 94
3 (7) 3002 APOLLO RED 11 (CD,F,S) G L Moore 8-9-9 Candy Morris 92
4 (4) 441 KINGS HARMONY 13 (CD,F) P Makin 4-9-6 S Sanders 92
5 (8) 5340 SONG MIST 25 (B,BF,CD,F) P Cole 3-9-5 David O'Neill (7) 93
6 (3) 6040 IVORY'S GRAB HIRE 9 (B,CD,F) K Ivory 4-9-1 M Dwyer (3) 97
7 (9) 2522 SHARP IMP 9 (B,BF,CD,F) R Flower 7-8-9 Dane O'Neill [illegible]
8 (2) 060 PRIDE OF HAYLING 25 (CD,F) P Hedger 6-8-7 S Drowne 92
9 (1) 6001 CHAKRA 9 (C,F) S Dow 3-7-13 (7ex) R Ffrench (3) 86

3-1 Sharp Imp, 4-1 Sharp Pearl, 6-1 Kings Harmony, 7-1 Apollo Red, 8-1 others.

3.45 TOTE BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP
(£2,693: 1m 2f) (11)

1 (8) 0054 ZURS 9 Gay Kelleway 4-9-11 K Fallon [illegible]
2 (2) 0000 MASTER MILLFIELD 4 (F) C Hill 5-9-10 R Hughes 90
3 (5) 000 AEGEAN SOUND 16 (G) K Ivory 3-9-9 Martin Dwyer (3) —
4 (6) 3641 SOVEREIGN CREST 9 (B,C,F) C Horgan 4-8-9 (6ex) D Holland 92
5 (7) 0040 DOUBLE RUSH 30 (CD,F,S) T Mills 5-9-1 J Quinn 92
6 (9) 2003 SQUARE MILE MISS 27 P Howling 4-8-12 Paul Eddery 98
7 (11) 4000 CHOPIN 13 (B) R Johnson Houghton 3-8-9 S Sanders 94
8 (10) 0363 RUNIC SYMBOL 25 (D,F) M Blanshard 6-8-7 C Rutter 92
9 (3) 2353 COLOUR COUNSELLOR 4 (B,C,F) R Flower 4-8-7 Dane O'Neill 92
10 (1) 0006 TUIGAMALA 13 (C,F) R Ingram 6-7-11 N Adams —
11 (4) 00-0 COMTEC'S LEGEND 11 (F,G) J Pearce 7-7-10 G Bardwell —

3-1 Sovereign Crest, 9-2 Colour Counsellor, 5-1 Square Mile Miss, 6-1 others.

4.15 CLIFTONVILLE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (£2,277: 1m 3f 196yd) (4)

1 (3) 2203 HIGH ON LIFE 8 A Stewart 3-8-13 S Whitworth 98
2 (2) 6032 BATHE IN LIGHT 20 (BF) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-8 D Harrison 94
3 (1) 3264 LITTLE MISS ROCKER 20 I Balding 3-8-8 M Dwyer (3) [illegible]
4 (4) 3624 POINTE FINE 16 J Hills 3-8-8 M Henry (3) 96

7-4 Bathe In Light, 2-1 High On Life, 3-1 Pointe Fine, 5-1 Little Miss Rocker.

4.45 EDBURTON HANDICAP (£2,808: 7f) (17)

1 (12) 0035 ED'S FOLLY 9 S Dow 4-10-0 R Ffrench (3) 91
2 (6) 8065 BAUBIGNY 19 M Channon 3-9-13 R Hughes 87
3 (9) 0046 TABASCO JAZZ 14 B Meehan 3-9-13 G Hannon (7) 98
4 (11) 0303 LAS VISTAS 14 H Collingridge 3-9-9 N Adams 95
5 (7) 00-6 TELLOFF 12 M Jarvis 3-9-8 S Sanders 93
6 (1) 0000 SECRET STRENGTH 19 Lady Herries 3-9-2 Paul Eddery 97
7 (15) 2563 MILLPET 37 R Guest 3-8-13 P Bloomfield 95
8 (4) 0006 HOMESTEAD 30 R Hannon 3-8-12 Dane O'Neill [illegible]
9 (10) 5023 MUARA BAY 54 (BF) G Lewis 3-8-8 J Dennis (7) 96
10 (5) 4000 ROCK FANTASY 90 C Murray 3-8-7 Nicola Howarth 85
11 (2) 504- LAST AMBITION 364 R Champion 5-8-6 J Quinn 84
12 (16) 000 SMILING BESS 23 J King 4-8-5 A Polli (5) —
13 (3) 2060 ALLSTARS DANCER 9 T Naughton 4-8-4 Rachael Moody (7) 93
14 (13) 0303 BARBURY BALLAD 14 M Heaton-Ellis 3-8-4 A Daly (5) —
15 (8) 0-00 DARATOWN 99 C Hill 4-8-3 M Baird (3) —
16 (17) 0060 SEAMUS 9 C Hill 3-8-3 C Rutter 94
17 (14) 006 ETERNALLY GRATEFUL 9 (B) K Ivory 4-7-12 M Dwyer (3) —

4-1 Homestead, 6-1 Las Vistas, 7-1 Tabasco Jazz, 8-1 Ed's Folly, 10-1 others.

YARMOUTH

THUNDERER
5.50 Tawafek. 6.20 Russian Ruler. 6.50 Laguna Bay. 7.20 Mutahadeth. 7.50 Dower House. 8.20 Pharaoh's Joy.

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
7.50 Dower House. 8.20 PHARAOH'S JOY (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

5.50 EAST COAST HANDICAP
(£3,677: 1m 6f 17yd) (8 runners)

1 28/0 THE FLYING PHANTOM 91 (C,D,F,S) M Tompkins 6-9-13 G Hind 4
2 3620 URGENT SWIFT 21 (F) A Jarvis 4-9-13 W Ryan 5
3 3153 TAWAFEK 7 (D,F) S Dow 4-9-6 M Roberts 1
4 -080 CHATHAM ISLAND 35 (CD,F,S) C Brittain 9-9-3 R Cochrane 7
5 6032 ALARICO 7 I Williams 4-9-0 A Clark 2
6 003 WATER FLOWER 14 J Fanshawe 3-8-11 M Hills 3
7 6422 DURHAM 5 (B,BF,D,F,G) G L Moore 6-8-11 M Wigham 8
8 -040 SHAIBOOR 13 M Stoute 3-8-9 J Reid 6

3-1 Alarico, 7-2 Durham, 5-1 Tawafek, 11-2 Shaiboor, 6-1 Urgent Swift, 10-1 Chatham Island, Water Flower, 14-1 The Flying Phantom.

6.20 MANSHIP MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,558: 1m 3f 101yd) (6)

1 0 ANNOUNCING 20 J Gosden 3-8-11 G Hind 6
2 ON MERIT S Gollings 3-8-11 W Ryan 1
3 -200 RUSSIAN RULER 12 A Jarvis 3-8-11 M Hills 3
4 SHIRTY D Morley 3-8-11 A Clark 2
5 022- ST LAWRENCE 314 C Brittain 3-8-11 M Roberts 4
6 -444 ELBAAHA 15 M Jarvis 3-8-6 R Cochrane 5

5-4 Elbaaha, 7-2 St Lawrence, 5-1 Russian Ruler, 6-1 Announcing, 7-1 Shirty, 33-1 On Merit.

6.50 FREETHORPE CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,624: 1m 2f 21yd) (8)

1 4406 MANIKATO 23 D Cosgrove 9-1 M Rimmer 5
2 5233 BON GUEST 12 (G) J O'Shea 8-13 W Ryan 4
3 0 MONACLE 18 D Morris 8-13 R Cochrane 6
4 2045 LAGUNA BAY 28 A Jarvis 8-8 J Reid 7
5 2560 MISS RIVIERA ROSE 21 G Wragg 8-8 M Hills 2
6 0045 RIVER OF FORTUNE 33 (F) M Tompkins 8-8 R Mullen (5) 8
7 6-01 COURT HOUSE 51 (G) M Chapman 8-7 S Carson (7) 1
8 5041 BLAZER'S BABY 12 (D,F) Mrs N Macauley 7-12 Jo Hunnam (7) 3

3-1 Miss Riviera Rose, 7-2 Bon Guest, 5-1 Blazer's Baby, 6-1 Laguna Bay, Court House, 8-1 Manikato, River of Fortune, 25-1 Monacle.

7.20 HORSEY SELLING HANDICAP
(£2,553: 1m 3yd) (15)

1 5000 REHAAB 12 (V,F) D Morris 4-9-10 R Cochrane 10
2 0555 GRESATRE 19 C Dwyer 3-9-8 Jo Hunnam (7) 4
3 11-0 SLIEVENAMON 48 (D) J Banks 4-9-9 M Roberts 1
4 -003 SHARK 18 K Morgan 4-9-9 D Pears 2
5 0000 SHARP RETURN 16 (B) M Ryan 3-9-8 A Clark 15
6 0353 MUTAHADETH 12 (D) D Shaw 3-9-8 G Hind 7
7 0304 BAAHETH 11 (B) S Williams 3-9-3 M Wigham 13
8 4056 MAGAZINE GAP 16 Pat Mitchell 4-9-3 Amanda Sanders (5) 8
9 0000 WELSH MOUNTAIN 6 (F) M Heaton-Ellis 4-9-3 J Reid 9
10 -000 EMMIS BREEZE 19 (C,F) G Margarson 3-9-0 M Rimmer 14
11 0050 HADADABBLE 14 Pat Mitchell 4-8-11 W Ryan 12
12 -042 INKWELL 12 A Hide 3-8-6 M Hills 3
13 0050 SWEET SEVENTEEN 16 H Collingridge 4-8-2 Aimee Cook (5) 11
14 0050 SHERWOOD 15 K Ivory 4-8-2 D Williams (7) 8
15 0000 PERSEPHONE 20 (B) J L Harris 4-7-13 R Mullen (5) 5

5-1 Inkwell, 6-1 Mutahadeth, 7-1 Gresatre, 8-1 Slievenamon, Shark, Baaheth, 10-1 Welsh Mountain, Persephone, 12-1 others.

7.50 BANHAM POULTRY CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,980: 7f 3yd) (7)

1 0 CIRCUS 32 C Brittain 8-12 M Roberts 1
2 5 DOWER HOUSE 11 W Jarvis 8-12 W Ryan 7
3 5 DRAGON BOY 19 I Williams 8-12 A Clark 6
4 GRECIAN PRINCE J G Smyth-Osbourne 8-12 M Hills 4
5 MR CAHILL M Stoute 8-12 J Reid 3
6 4 CAMPARI 35 M Jarvis 8-7 R Cochrane 2
7 0 ELBA MAGIC 35 C Dwyer 8-7 M Rimmer 5

7-4 Mr Cahill, 2-1 Dower House, 6-1 Circus, Campari, 14-1 Dragon Boy, Elba Magic, 25-1 Grecian Prince.

8.20 FILBY BRIDGE FILLIES HANDICAP
(£3,018: 5f 43yd) (7)

1 0024 KIND OF LIGHT 4 (BF,F,G) R Guest 4-10-0 J Reid 7
2 3059 SALLY SLADE 7 (D,F,G,S) C Cyzer 5-9-13 W Ryan 2
3 5200 POLLY GOLIGHTLY 7 (B,D,F) M Blanshard 4-9-12 M Roberts 1
4 3453 PHARAOH'S JOY 12 (B,BF,CD,F) J W Payne 4-9-2 R Cochrane 5
5 0060 DIVINE MISS-P 22 (G) A Jarvis 4-8-10 M Hills 4
6 2315 COLLEGE PRINCESS 9 (BF,D,F) S Williams 3-8-8 D Williams (7) 6
7 3026 NAPIER STAR 11 (V,D) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-3 A Clark 3

11-4 Pharaoh's Joy, 7-2 Kind Of Light, 5-1 Napier Star, 11-2 Sally Slade, 6-1 Polly Golightly, College Princess, 16-1 Divine Miss-P.

EPSOM

THUNDERER
6.00 Freedom Chance. 6.30 Bernardo Bellotto. 7.00 Shawdon. 7.30 Impulsif. 8.00 My Beloved. 8.30 Confronter.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 7.30 Sharpo Wassl.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

6.00 MCCARTHY CORPORATION APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£2,679: 1m 4f 10yd) (6 runners)

1 6504 MONTECRISTO 16 (D,F) R Guest 4-10-0 G Faulkner 6
2 10-0 LAAZIM AFOOZ 58 (D,G) R Phillips 4-9-12 J Fowle (5) 2
3 3442 FREEDOM CHANCE 9 (V,F) J Hills 3-9-10 M Henry 4
4 4501 ZAMALEK 7 (F) R Flower 5-8-13 (6ex) G Milligan 5
5 0001 NORSONG 57 (D,F) J Akehurst 5-8-10 D Sweeney 3
6 -262 SUPERMICK 4 (CD,F,G) W Muir 6-8-4 J D Smith 1

5-2 Supermick, 3-1 Zamalek, 7-2 Freedom Chance, 9-2 Montecristo, 6-1 Norsong, 20-1 Laazim Afooz.

6.30 EBF MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,355: 7f) (10)

1 ALBERICH M Johnston 9-0 D Holland 6
2 4222 BERNARDO BELLOTTO 28 M Bell 9-0 K Fallon 9
3 05 CHIEF BLADE 14 B Akehurst 9-0 S Sanders 8
4 5 DOUBLE BRANDY 19 I Balding 9-0 L Dettori 5
5 56 SADDLERS' ROE 41 B Hills 9-0 J D Smith (3) 2
6 04 SANTONE 25 R Hannon 9-0 Dane O'Neill 10
7 WINTERTIME G Lewis 9-0 Pat Eddery 1
8 0 ZIMZIE 23 M Haynes 9-0 Martin Dwyer (3) 4
9 05 FROLICKING 30 J Dunlop 8-9 D Harrison 7
10 0 SAFABEE 23 M Haynes 8-9 G Bardwell 3

9-4 Bernardo Bellotto, 11-4 Double Brandy, 6-1 Frolicking, 7-1 Santone, 8-1 Wintertime, 12-1 Alberich, Saddlers' Roe, 14-1 others.

7.00 W S ATKINS NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £4,124: 6f) (5)
SKY

1 1165 SHAWDON 4 (D,F,G) M Prescott 9-7 S Sanders 2
2 410 KAWAFIL 29 (S) P Walwyn 9-6 R Hills 4
3 130 OVERTURE 19 (G) R Hannon 9-3 Pat Eddery 1
4 0333 AMERICAN COUSIN 12 (B) B Meehan 8-5 Dane O'Neill 5
5 646 MRS MIDDLE 22 N Callaghan 7-12 R Ffrench (3) 3

2-1 Shawdon, 5-2 Overture, 3-1 Kawafil, 11-2 American Cousin, 10-1 Mrs Middle.

7.30 RING & BRYMER HANDICAP
SKY
(3-Y-O: £5,090: 7f) (8)

1 313 MR SPONGE 42 (BF,D,F) I Balding 9-7 L Dettori 7
2 0405 CARATI 15 (B,F) R Boss 9-2 K Fallon 6
3 2100 PERICLES 11 (D,S) M Johnston 8-10 D Holland 2
4 50-4 IRTIFA 67 (F) P Walwyn 8-7 R Hills 8
5 5024 IMPULSIF 14 (D,G) D Ffrench Davis 8-5 Pat Eddery 1
6 2163 SHARPO WASSL 9 (D,G) W Haggas 8-3 J Quinn 5
7 4600 JUPITER 12 G Bravery 7-13 D R McCabe 4
8 0660 LADY GODIVA 6 (B,G) M Polglase 7-10 Martin Dwyer (3) 3

9-4 Irtifa, 3-1 Mr Sponge, 9-2 Sharpo Wassl, 11-2 Impulsif, 13-2 Pericles, 7-1 Carati, 10-1 Jupiter, 16-1 Lady Godiva.

8.00 WEATHERBYS RACECARD CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,700: 1m 2f) (5)
SKY

1 045 AZORES 23 P Cole 9-7 Pat Eddery 3
2 0-04 PRINCE DE LOIR 18 D Cosgrove 9-7 K Fallon 4
3 1400 SUPERBELLE 13 (D) M Jarvis 8-6 Emma O'Gorman 2
4 0342 MY BELOVED 19 (F) R Hannon 8-5 Dane O'Neill 1
5 0302 KEEN WATERS 9 J Arnold 8-2 D Harrison 5

13-8 My Beloved, 9-4 Azores, 3-1 Prince de Loir, 13-2 Keen Waters, 7-1 Superbelle.

8.30 GO EVENING RACING WITH THE DAILY TELEGRAPH HANDICAP (£3,436: 1m 114yd) (8)

1 1330 BROUGHTONS TURMOIL 29 (F,G) B Millman 8-10-0 K Fallon 7
2 2321 DAWAM ALLAIL 18 (F) M Jarvis 3-9-6 Pat Eddery 8
3 -043 KAFIL 33 G L Moore 3-9-4 Candy Morris 1
4 0d11 INTERDREAM 13 (F) R Hannon 3-8-13 Dane O'Neill 2
5 1046 CONFRONTER 8 (F,G,S) S Dow 8-8-10 R Hughes 6
6 0402 ABSOLUTE UTOPIA 19 N Berry 4-8-6 S Sanders 4
7 5200 JOLLY JACKSON 11 R Akehurst 3-7-13 J Quinn 5
8 0000 COASTGUARDS HERO 7 M Usher 4-7-10 J Fowle (7) 3

11-4 Dawam Allail, 7-2 Interdream, 4-1 Kafil, 9-2 Confronter, 11-2 Absolute Utopia, 7-1 Jolly Jackson, 8-1 Broughtons Turmoil, 25-1 Coastguards Hero.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Jarvis, 6 winners from 14 runners, 42.9%, M Johnston, 8 from 31, 25.8%; N Callaghan, 4 from 19, 21.1%; W Muir, 3 from 15, 20.0%; J Dunlop, 8 from 43, 18.6%, R Akehurst, 12 from 83, 14.5%, R Hannon, 15 from 136, 11.0%.

JOCKEYS: K Fallon, 5 winners from 19 rides, 26.3%, S Sanders, 11 from 57, 19.3%; Pat Eddery, 21 from 110, 19.1%, D Harrison, 5 from 30, 16.7%, L Dettori, 14 from 88, 15.9%, D Holland, 6 from 41, 14.6%; R Hills, 4 from 35, 11.4%

NOTTINGHAM

THUNDERER
6.10 Chikal. 6.40 Moon Fairy. 7.10 Blarney Park. 7.40 Fern's Governor. 8.10 FOREST FANTASY (nap). 8.40 Aztec Flyer.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.10 JAMAICA SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £1,985: 6f 15yd) (13 runners)

1 0155 HEAVENLY FALLS 11 (D,G) C Dwyer 9-2 D O'Donohoe (3) 1
2 00 ASK SPEEDY SNAPS 9 J Bradley 8-11 A Mackay 4
3 0 CHIKAL 23 B Palling 8-11 T Sprake 10
4 003 CLEAR VIEW 9 B Meehan 8-11 M Tebbutt 2
5 002 COURTNEY GYM 9 M Channon 8-11 J Fortune 13
6 2006 EUROFEN 44 (B) P Evans 8-11 J F Egan 11
7 20 JUST A STROLL 11 J S Moore 8-11 W J O'Connor 5
8 0050 CANDY TWIST 8 Ron Thompson 8-6 Darren Moffatt (3) 9
9 0060 E B TREASURE 8 N Bycroft 8-6 J Lowe 12
10 000 HOYLAND COMMON 8 N Tinkler 8-6 Kim Tinkler 6
11 5 JET SET SARAH 14 J Berry 8-6 C Lowther (5) 3
12 00 LANARA 14 (V) Mrs N Macauley 8-6 B Doyle 7
13 0020 STRAVSEA 20 B Baugh 8-6 P Roberts (5) 8

5-2 Courtney Gym, 7-2 Clear View, 9-2 Heavenly Falls, 6-1 Stravsea, 10-1 Just A Stroll, 12-1 Chikal, Eurofen, 14-1 others

6.40 BARBADOS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
SKY
(3-Y-O: £2,531: 6f 15yd) (7)

1 0223 CASTLE ASHBY JACK 12 (B,BF) P Howling 9-0 B Doyle 7
2 6 CHIEF'S SPIRIT 41 G M Moore 9-0 J Tate 6
3 0-0 JONNY'S JOKER 12 F Lee 9-0 G Carter 1
4 0- FANTASY FLIGHT 348 M Pattl 8-9 J Fortune 2
5 0055 LA DOYENNE 37 C Booth 8-9 F Lynch 4
6 22 MOON FAIRY 21 (BF) J G Smyth-Osbourne 8-9 Y Sprake 3
7 00 UNFORGETABLE CHARM 7 (V) Mrs N Macauley 8-9 S Webster 5

8-11 Moon Fairy, 9-2 Castle Ashby Jack, 8-1 Chief's Spirit, Fantasy Flight, 12-1 La Doyenne, 16-1 Jonny's Joker, 25-1 Unforgetable Charm.

7.10 TRINIDAD & TOBAGO CLAIMING STAKES
SKY
(2-Y-O: £2,277: 5f 13yd) (9)

1 346 JUST ANOTHER TIME 25 J Berry 8-13 P Roberts (5) 7
2 JUSTIN HOPE C Brittain 8-13 B Doyle 9
3 0004 REGALO 20 D Hyde 8-13 R Havlin (3) 3
4 ARSENIC B Palling 8-9 T Sprake 2
5 1320 SUN IN THE MORNING 49 (BF,D,F,G) B Meehan 8-8 M Tebbutt 8
6 0408 GLASS RIVER 8 P Evans 8-7 J F Egan 6
7 2211 DAYNABEE 11 (D,G,S) N Tinkler 8-6 Kim Tinkler 1
8 0550 BLARNEY PARK 8 C Dwyer 8-4 D O'Donohoe (3) 4
9 565 DISPOL EMERALD 19 S Kettlewell 7-10 Jenny Benson (7) 5

9-4 Just Another Time, 7-2 Daynabee, 7-1 Justin Hope, Dispol Emerald, 8-1 Regalo, 10-1 Sun In The Morning, Blarney Park, 12-1 others.

7.40 ANTIGUA HANDICAP
SKY
(£3,434: 1m 1f 213yd) (18)

1 0400 RIVAL BID 93 (V,D,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 9-9-10 S Webster 11
2 3031 AFRICAN-PARD 18 (CD,F) D Haydn Jones 5-9-9 S Drowne 10
3 4163 TONNERRE 7 (CD,S) B McMahon 5-9-6 L Newton 3
4 0111 MCGILLYCUDDY REEKS 8 (D,F,G) Ennio Incisa 6-9-6 (6ex) Kim Tinkler 7
5 0510 HARVEY WHITE 6 (D,F,G,S) J Pearce 5-9-3 N Day 6
6 0/0- GROOMS GOLD 454J (F) P Harris 5-9-3 A Culhane 4
7 0306 TINKLERS FOLLY 7 (V,F,G) R Whitaker 5-9-2 D McKeown 2
8 0-53 MOWJOOD 33 (V,BF) M Stoute 3-9-2 K Darley 15
9 0030 SUPREME SOUND 35 (CD,G) P Harris 3-9-1 C Lowther (5) 18
10 0U56 FERN'S GOVERNOR 16 (CD,F,G) W Musson 5-9-0 G Carter 8
11 8-60 SUIVEZ 21 (F) Mrs N Macauley 7-8-7 B Doyle 12
12 3450 NAUGHTY PISTOL 12 (B,F) P Evans 5-8-7 J F Egan 9
13 5000 GILLING DANCER 18 (F) P Calver 4-8-7 Darren Moffatt (3) 5
14 3105 DIAMOND CROWN 23 (CD,F,G) M Wane 6-8-5 A Whelan (3) 17
15 5000 PRINCELY AFFAIR 128 (D,F) J Bradley 4-8-1 A Mackay 13
16 2450 BEDAZZLE 16 (G) M Brittain 6-7-13 D Meredith (7) 14
17 0420 BRONHALLOW 26 (B) Mrs B Waring 4-7-10 J Lowe 16
18 0500 MONIS 18 (F) Ron Thompson 5-7-10 N Carlisle 1

9-2 Mowjood, 6-1 McGillycuddy Reeks, 7-1 African-Pard, 8-1 Tonnerre, 10-1 Harvey White, Tinklers Folly, Supreme Sound, Bedazzle, 12-1 others

8.10 ST LUCIA FILLIES HANDICAP
SKY
(£3,226: 1m 54yd) (11)

1 3001 SIS GARDEN 3 (D,F,S) J Cullinan 4-9-12 (6ex) R Winston (7) 2
2 0013 VIVA VERDI 53 (BF,CD,G) J Dunlop 3-9-10 T Sprake 9
3 2502 TWIN TIME 12 M Heaton-Ellis 3-9-10 S Drowne 4
4 0-64 PERPETUAL LIGHT 165J (D) J Quinn 4-9-4 A McGlone 3
5 -030 FOREST FANTASY 44 (F) J Wharton 4-9-2 J Fortune 6
6 0031 ANETTA 7 (CD,F) Miss S Hall 3-9-2 (6ex) L Charnock 1
7 6002 SCENICRIS 12 (CD,S) R Hollinshead 4-9-0 F Lynch 5
8 0-00 CABCHARGE BLUE 14 (C,D,F,S) T Naughton 5-8-12 G Carter 10
9 2502 ROCHEA 14 Mrs N Macauley 3-8-6 B Doyle 7
10 0004 SPARE MY BLUSHES 12 B McMahon 3-7-10 S Righton (7) 11
11 0000 EPIPETITE 12 (B,D) N Bycroft 4-7-10 J Lowe 8

5-2 Viva Verdi, 5-1 Sis Garden, Twin Time, 6-1 Forest Fantasy, Rochea, 8-1 Anetta, Scenicris, 12-1 Perpetual Light, 14-1 others

8.40 CARIBBEAN HANDICAP
(£2,970: 2m 9yd) (12)

1 0-50 BLATANT OUTBURST 68J Miss S Wilton 7-9-11 C Lowther (5) 4
2 5000 PROSPECTOR'S COVE 18 (G,S) J Pearce 4-9-9 N Day 1
3 03U1 CHILDREN'S CHOICE 9 (D,F,G,S) W Musson 6-9-3 (5ex) A McGlone 6
4 5451 AZTEC FLYER 15 (B,F) C Brittain 4-8-13 B Doyle 5
5 0640 ALWAROA 12 (F) M Wane 4-8-13 A Whelan (3) 3
6 6630 THAHIB 14 J L Harris 3-8-8 A Culhane 7
7 0-20 NEEDWOOD EPIC 18 (V) B Morgan 4-8-7 L Charnock 10
8 4400 NOT FORGOTTEN 18 (V) P Kelleway 3-8-6 R Winston (7) 12
9 3620 ARISAIG 16 P Calver 3-8-4 Darren Moffatt (3) 2
10 4301 SUSHI BAR 30 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-2 K Darley 11
11 0-05 MRS DRUMMOND 74 S McCourt 4-7-11 N Carlisle 9
12 -006 STRAT'S LEGACY 27 (F) D Arbuthnot 10-7-11 J Lowe 8

7-2 Aztec Flyer, 9-2 Children's Choice, 5-1 Sushi Bar, 7-1 Thahib, 8-1 Needwood Epic, Arisaig, 12-1 Alwaroa, Strat's Legacy, 14-1 others

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Brighton: 3.15 Song Mist. 3.45 Sovereign Crest. 4.45 Eternally Grateful. Epsom: 7.00 American Cousin. 7.30 Carati, Lady Godiva. Newcastle: 2.30 Durham Flyer. 3.00 Captain McCloy. 4.00 Charter, 4.00 Highfield Pet. Nottingham: 6.10 Lanara. 6.40 Unforgetable Charm. 7.40 Mowjood, Tinklers Folly. Yarmouth: 7.20 Baaheth, Rehaab. 8.20 Pharaoh's Joy

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Catterick Bridge

Going: good to firm (good in places)

2.15 (7f) 1, Mowbray (J Reid, 4-7 fav); 2, Zambezi (2-1); 3, Tearaway (14-1). 8 ran. 1¼l, 5l. P Cole. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £1.10, £1.80. DF: £1.10. CSF: £1.77.

2.45 (1m 5f 175yd) 1, Hasta La Vista (G Parkin, 10-1); 2, Lime Street Blues (8-1); 3, Dancing Cavalier (4-1); 4, Ballpoint (9-1). Admirals Secret 7-2 fav. 16 ran. 1½l, nk. M W Easterby. Tote: £15.90; £3.60, £1.10, £2.60, £3.10. DF: £115.90. Trio: £201.80. CSF: £87.94. Tricast: £360.37.

3.15 (1m 7f 177yd) 1, Forzair (J Carroll, 9-1); 2, Mersayes (10-11 fav); 3, Ocean Breeze (16-1). 6 ran. Nk, 10l. J J O'Neill. Tote: £11.90; £4.30, £1.20. DF: £8.60. CSF: £17.30.

3.45 (7f) 1, Kass Alhawa (A Culhane, 8-1); 2, Sing With The Band (4-1 fav); 3, Needle Match (9-1); 4, Mytons Mistake (6-1). 17 ran. Nk, ¾l. D Chapman. Tote: £12.60; £3.60, £1.60, £2.50, £1.50. DF: £54.80. Trio: £217.50. CSF: £42.53. Tricast: £305.05. After a stewards' inquiry, Mybotye, who finished first, was disqualified and placed last.

4.15 (1m 3f 214yd) 1, Urgent Reply (J Carroll, 3-1); 2, More Than You Know (2-1 jt-fav); 3, Golden Thunderbolt (2-1 jt-fav). 5 ran. 1¼l, ½l. C Dwyer. Tote: £3.50; £1.30, £1.60. DF: £4.30. CSF: £8.85.

4.45 (6f) 1, Double Oscar (Alex Greaves, 2-1 fav); 2, Lady Caroline Lamb (33-1); 3, Johayro (10-1); 4, William's Well (20-1). 19 ran. NR: Another Batchworth. 1¼l, 1l. D Nicholls. Tote: £3.80; £1.40, £7.00, £1.60, £4.30. DF: £81.70. Trio: £632.20. CSF: £94.52. Tricast: £602.06.

Jackpot: £7,100.00 (part won. Pool of £4,195.69 carried forward to Newcastle today).

Folkestone

Going: good to firm (good in places)

2.00 (5f) 1, Huntswood (R Hughes, 4-6 fav); 2, Madame Claude (6-1); 3, Alpen Wolf (8-1). 5 ran. 1l, 1¾l. R Hannon. Tote: £1.50; £1.20, £2.50. DF: £3.20. CSF: £4.57.

2.30 (6f) 1, Shannon (K Fallon, 6-1); 2, Russian About (5-2); 3, Patricia Olive (9-2). Little Tumbler 5-4 fav. 8 ran. NR: Jilvarra. Hd, 2l. C Dwyer. Tote: £5.50; £1.90, £1.60. DF: £9.70. CSF: £19.72.

3.00 (6f) 1, Stand Tall (M Roberts, 2-1 fav; Thunderer's nap); 2, Present Generation (4-1); 3, Aquatic Queen (6-1). 8 ran. 1l, 2½l. Lady Herries. Tote: £2.60; £1.10, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £3.40. CSF: £9.76. Tricast: £38.52.

3.30 (1m 4f) 1, Veronica Franco (Dane O'Neill, 6-1); 2, Moon Colony (5-2); 3, Victor Blum (7-1). Peppers 7-4 fav. 7 ran. 3l, 2l. P Hedger. Tote: £7.10; £2.70, £1.70. DF: £15.80. CSF: £22.83.

4.00 (6f 189yd) 1, Primelta (S Sanders, 9-1); 2, Tachycardia (6-1); 3, Dentree (5-1). Indian Relative 3-1 fav. 9 ran. ¾l, 2l. R Akehurst. Tote: £10.80; £2.70, £2.20, £1.80. DF: £15.20. Trio: £52.20. CSF: £55.91. Tricast: £274.80.

4.30 (1m 1f 149yd) 1, Country Thatch (R Ffrench, 4-1); 2, Bear Hug (11-4); 3, Tezaab (8-1). Samara Song 15-8 fav. 8 ran. Nk, 3l. C Horgan. Tote: £4.90; £1.20, £1.40, £2.00. DF: £12.40. CSF: £14.86. Tricast: £78.14. £42.40.

RACELINE
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BRIGHTON 102 202
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COURSE SPECIALISTS

Brighton

TRAINERS: M Jarvis, 7 winners from 27 runners, 25.9%; K Ivory, 5 from 22, 22.7%; Lord Huntingdon, 7 from 33, 21.2%; Miss G Kelleway, 11 from 58, 19.0%; P Makin, 3 from 16, 18.8%; J Pearce, 5 from 27, 18.5%; T Mills, 8 from 46, 17.4%.

JOCKEYS: Martin Dwyer, 8 winners from 37 rides, 21.6%; R Ffrench, 5 from 24, 20.8%; R Hughes, 13 from 70, 18.6%; Dane O'Neill, 17 from 101, 16.8%; D Holland, 10 from 60,

Nottingham

TRAINERS: J Dunlop, 20 winners from 112 runners, 17.9%, M Wane, 4 from 24, 16.7%; M Channon, 10 from 64, 15.6%, R Whitaker, 5 from 34, 14.7%, B Meehan, 9 from 74, 12.2%; D Arbuthnot, 3 from 25, 12.0%, D Haydn Jones, 4 from 34, 11.8%.

JOCKEYS: A Whelan, 4 winners from 19 rides, 21.1%; D O'Donohoe, 3 from 15, 20.0%; T Sprake, 17 from 120, 14.2%; R Havlin, 3 from 26, 11.5%; A McGlone, 7 from

Yarmouth

TRAINERS: J Gosden, 18 winners from 99 runners, 18.2%; D Morris, 10 from 58, 17.2%; C Dwyer, 8 from 49, 16.3%; C Brittain, 24 from 165, 14.5%; J Fanshawe, 12 from 84, 14.3%; D Morley, 9 from 63, 14.3%; G Wragg, 10 from 75, 13.3%

JOCKEYS: J Reid, 4 winners from 17 rides, 23.5%; W Ryan, 22 from 128, 17.2%, M Hills, 28 from 168, 16.7%; M Roberts, 18 from 117, 15.4%; G Hind, 10 from 77,

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

2.30 Eastern Purple	4.00 Dirab
3.00 Miss Main Street	4.30 Trojan Hero
3.30 Essayeffsee	5.00 Queens Consul

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.00 MISS MAIN STREET.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.30 NEWCASTLE SHOW MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,621: 6f) (19 runners)

101 (10) 045 APPYABO 13 (M Quinn) M Channon 9-0 P P Murphy (3) [illegible]
102 (1) ASBESTASWECAN (Lucky Rule Racing) W Jarvis 9-0 K Darley —
103 (4) 5 COOL PROSPECT 11 (G Darley Racing Partnership) A Mulholland 9-0 D Wright 76
104 (7) 06244 DURHAM FLYER 14 (B) (C Stevens) T Easterby 9-0 L Charnock 97
105 (11) 0 EASTERN PURPLE 19 (T Chiang) R Fahey 9-0 A Culhane 85
106 (6) 0 HOLY WINE 18 (C Ranson) D Loder 9-0 W Ryan 76
107 (18) JACK RUBY (R Dalton) P L Gilligan 9-0 D McKeown —
108 (15) 4 KAYO 11 (J Abell) T Etherington 9-0 J Tate 82
109 (17) 8 PRINCE ASHLEIGH 70 (S Desmond) P Haslam 9-0 M Fenton 85
110 (5) 065 TOP FLOOR 60 (Leeds Plywood & Doors Ltd) N Tinkler 9-0 Kim Tinkler 94
111 (9) 06 WALWORTH WIZARD 30 (V Sparks) M Dods 9-0 J Carroll 82
112 (14) 00400 WHACKER-DO 12 (C Bigley Partnership Ltd) R Hollinshead 9-0 F Lynch 81
113 (2) 04 CHASKA 12 (J Good) M Johnston 8-9 J Weaver 84
114 (3) 03 GOOD ON YER 21 (Hollinbridge Racing) S Kettlewell 8-9 J Fanning 86
115 (19) MISSED DOMINO (S Smith) Mrs A Swinbank 8-9 G Duffield —
116 (16) 0 MISS PUGH 39 (Mrs E Sweetman) C Fairhurst 8-9 R Lappin —
117 (8) 6 MISS VIVIEN 23 (Lockord Manor Stud) Miss L Perratt 8-9 T E Durcan (3) 71
118 (12) REPOSE (Mrs Janet McLeod) G Oldroyd 8-9 K Hodgson —
119 (13) 0 TAMBURELLO 27 (Chocolate Syndicate) J Berry 8-9 P Fessey (3) —

BETTING: 3-1 Holy Wine, 7-1 Durham Flyer, Top Floor, 8-1 Appyabo, Kayo, 10-1 Eastern Purple, 12-1 Cool Prospect, Good On Yer, 14-1 others.

1996: MYSTIC CIRCLE 8-9 N Connorton (7-4 fav) J Watts 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

APPYABO about 3l 5th of 11 to Flow By in auction maiden at Brighton (7f, firm). EASTERN PURPLE 4¾l 8th of 17 to Bergen in auction maiden at Pontefract (6f, good to firm). KAYO about 4l 4th of 10 to Darwell's Folly in auction maiden over course and distance (good to firm) with COOL PROSPECT (1lb worse off) 1¾l 5th. PRINCE ASHLEIGH about 5¼l 6th of 18 to Princely Heir in maiden at Ripon (5f, good to firm). TOP FLOOR about 3¼l 5th of 20 to Premium Pursuit in auction maiden at Doncaster (6f, good). GOOD ON YER about 11l 3rd of 11 to Lend A Hand in auction novice at Catterick (7f, good to firm).
Selection: APPYABO

3.00 C D BRAMALL LDV NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £2,986: 7f) (15 runners)

201 (7) 1130 JACKERIN 20 (F,G) (J Young) B Rothwell 9-7 M Fenton 94
202 (11) 233244 SHARP CRACKER 8 (Mrs J Bird) M Johnston 9-6 J Weaver 83
203 (1) 430 FUNDANCE 33 (A Watson) M Dods 9-4 J Carroll 92
204 (8) 4605 NARROGIN 25 (V) (Albero Investments) M Channon 9-2 P P Murphy (3) 89
205 (12) 366 CAPTAIN MCCLOY 16 (V) (Sanssparners) Mrs J Ramsden 8-11 D McKeown 88
206 (3) 0014 LINNETSONG 32 (V,D,G) (R Cook) G Oldroyd 8-9 K Hodgson 88
207 (6) 5040 THE CANNIE ROVER 16 (Mrs E Rhind) M W Easterby 8-8 G Parkin (3) 80
208 (2) 040 REBALZA 48 (Brave Maple Partnership) J Eustace 8-8 J Tate 83
209 (5) 0602 ON THE MAT 21 (C Bigley Partnership Ltd) J J O'Neill 8-8 P Fessey (3) 85
210 (9) 300 STARLINER 19 (Northgate Lodge Partnerships) M Brittain 8-6 K Darley 95
211 (10) 630 WATCHMAN 16 (T Tate) T Tate 8-4 A Culhane 81
212 (15) 601 SEMI CIRCLE 14 (D,G) (C Stevens) T Easterby 8-3 L Charnock 89
213 (13) 054 MISS MAIN STREET 14 (BF) (Main Street Partnership) J J Quinn 8-2 G Duffield [illegible]
214 (14) 053 KITE 15 (C Wan) M Bell 7-13 R Mullen (5) 95
215 (4) 0003 DANCING EM 32 (D Lamplough) T Easterby 7-10 D Wright 82

Long handicap: Dancing Em 7-8.

BETTING: 5-1 Captain McCloy, 6-1 Semi Circle, 13-2 Miss Main Street, 7-1 On The Mat, 10-1 Sharp Cracker, Narrogin, Rebalza, 12-1 others.

1996: TOP OF THE WIND 9-7 K Fallon (7-2) J J O'Neill 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

SHARP CRACKER about 2¾l 4th of 16 to Miss Eliminator in auction maiden at Beverley (5f, good). LINNETSONG beat Greenbrook 1¾l in 11-runner seller at Redcar (7f, good). THE CANNIE ROVER 9¾l 4th of 11 to Mountain Song in auction maiden at Thirsk (7f, good) with ON THE MAT 21 6th and DANCING EM (7lb better off) ¾l 8th. WATCHMAN 20¾l 3rd of 7 to Flower O'Cannie in novice event at Beverley (7f 100yd, heavy) with LINNETSONG (10lb worse off) 5l 4th. SEMI CIRCLE beat Ribble Assembly 1¾l in 12-runner seller at Catterick (7f, good to firm) with MISS MAIN STREET (1lb better off) about 2¾l 4th. KITE about 5l 3rd of 10 to The Honorable Lady in seller at Yarmouth (7f, good to firm).
Selection: MISS MAIN STREET

3.30 NORTH EAST AUTO TRADER APPRENTICE SELLING STAKES
(£2,103: 1m 4f 93yd) (8 runners)

301 (1) 50-1432 LATVIAN 26 (B,BF,CD,F,G,S) (I Bell) R Allan 10-9-12 R Winston 92
302 (3) 4201535 SHEROY 8 (C,D,F,G) (Miss N Thesiger) S Kettlewell 5-9-12 P Fredericks (3) 98
303 (2) 0-00304 ESSAYEFFSEE 19 (F,G) (Mrs S Murray) Mrs M Reveley 8-9-6 A Nicholls (5) [illegible]
304 (8) 00/ PETRICO 53J (W Lofthouse) P Beaumont 5-9-6 T Siddall (3) —
305 (7) -204320 SHABANAZ 16 (BF,D,F,G,S) (Fayzad Thoroughbred Ltd) W Muir 12-9-6 J Wilkinson 97
306 (6) 6-04 KULEPOPSIE 23J (G Darley Racing Partnership) A Mulholland 4-9-1 K Sked —
307 (5) 000003 COCHITI 8 (B) (G Reed) C Thornton 3-8-4 P Doe (3) 83
308 (4) 5 LADY MAGICIAN 11 (G Leggott) C Fairhurst 3-8-4 Jenny Benson (5) 91

BETTING: 9-4 Latvian, 11-4 Essayeffsee, 7-2 Sheroy, 9-2 Shabanaz, 12-1 Cochiti, 14-1 Kulepopsie, 33-1 Petrico, Lady Magician

1996: HE'S GOT WINGS 3-8-12 G Faulkner (8-13 fav) M Bell 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

LATVIAN 1½l 2nd of 7 to Urgent Reply in claimer at Hamilton (1m 4f, good to firm). SHEROY about 3l 3rd of 11 to Classic Ballet in limited stakes at Musselburgh (1m 4f, good to firm) with ESSAYEFFSEE (4lb better off) head 4th. SHABANAZ ½l 2nd of 5 to Petoskin in seller at Bath (1m 3f 144yd, good to firm). KULEPOPSIE 17l 4th of 5 to Truly Bay in auction maiden at Southwell (7f, AW). COCHITI 5¾l 3rd of 5 to Foolish Flutter in selling handicap at Beverley (1m 4f, good). LADY MAGICIAN 11½l 5th of 9 to Maremma in selling maiden at Redcar (1m 3f, good to soft).
Selection: LATVIAN

4.00 SANDY BAY HOLIDAY PARK HANDICAP
(£2,843: 2m 19yd) (14 runners)

401 (11) 4145003 DIRAB 11 (BF,D,F,G,S) (A Gome) T Barron 4-10-0 Kimberley Hart (5) [illegible]
402 (14) 0060042 CHARTER 30 (V,BF) (V Chandler (Equus) Ltd) W Storey 6-9-12 J Fanning 89
403 (9) 0432124 TRILBY 25 (V,BF,D,F,S) (Mrs B Finch) G Richards 4-9-9 T E Durcan (3) 92
404 (1) 4433/00 CITTERN 16 (Carnoustie Racing Club Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 7-9-9 A Culhane —
405 (13) 0211313 ALL ON 87 (BF,F,G,S) (N Hetherton) J Hetherton 6-9-7 G Duffield 87
406 (3) 30P/451 THUNDERHEART 19 (D,F,G) (I Dalgleish) R Allan 6-9-4 D Griffiths (3) 89
407 (2) 00/60-0 HIGHFIELD PET 14 (V) (Mrs P Taylor-Garthwaite) C Fairhurst 4-9-3 L Charnock 83
408 (8) -001145 AURELIAN 11 (F) (M Fitzgerald) M Bell 3-8-13 M Fenton 84
409 (6) -550140 AMIARGE 18 (B,D,F,G,S) (J Woods) M Brittain 7-8-13 J Carroll 91
410 (12) 5/34353 BATABANOO 22 (F,G) (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 8-8-12 K Darley 89
411 (10) 3533111 INDIGO DAWN 16 (G,S) (Greenland Park Ltd) M Johnston 3-8-12 J Weaver 94
412 (7) 115-000 BATOUTOFTHEBLUE 11 (Dr C Emmerson) W Haigh 4-8-12 F Norton —
413 (4) 5065203 SWIFTWAY 16 (A White) K Hogg 3-8-9 D McKeown 89
414 (5) 60-6803 PENNY PEPPERMINT 42 (Mrs R Barr) R Barr 5-7-10 P Fessey (3) 85

Long handicap: Penny Peppermint 7-7

BETTING: 9-2 Trilby, 6-1 Charter, Indigo Dawn, 7-1 Dirab, Thunderheart, 8-1 All On, Aurelian, 10-1 others.

1996: SHIRLEY SUE 3-8-6 J Weaver (5-2 jt fav) M Johnston 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

DIRAB 5l 3rd of 7 to Here Comes Herbie in handicap at Redcar (2m, good to soft) with BATOUTOFTHEBLUE (3lb better off) 39l 7th. CHARTER 7l 2nd of 7 to Lady Of The Lake in maiden handicap at Bath (2m 1l, good). TRILBY beat Hasta La Vista 7l in 7-runner handicap at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft) with THUNDERHEART (1lb better off) 20l 5th. ALL ON beat Highfield Fizz 9l in 9-runner handicap at Carlisle (1m 6f, good to soft) with TRILBY (16lb better off) 22l 7th.
THUNDERHEART beat Bold Elect 1l in 15-runner handicap at Musselburgh (2m, good to firm). BATABANOO about ¾l 3rd of 11 to Anan Spirit in handicap at Beverley (2m, good to firm).
Selection: TRILBY

4.30 NEP HANDICAP (£3,420: 7f) (7 runners)

501 (6) 000-650 ROYAL MARK 25 (D,F,G) (M Bottle's 5th Family Syndicate) T Barron 4-10-0 J Carroll 86
502 (5) 4111543 WEETMAN'S WEIGH 9 (BF,D,F,S) (E Weetman) R Hollinshead 4-9-10 D Griffiths (3) 95
503 (3) 00-4612 TROJAN HERO 34 (BF,F) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-2 A Culhane 90
504 (7) 0116206 FAME AGAIN 12 (D,G,S) (J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-10 M Fenton 90
505 (4) 2112400 JEDI KNIGHT 16 (D,F,G) (K Hodgson) M W Easterby 3-8-7 L Charnock 92
506 (2) 06-3005 OCHOS RIOS 29 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs H Burn) B Rothwell 6-8-1 R Winston (7) [illegible]
507 (1) 2000004 BE WARNED 3 (B,D,F,G) (N Riddell) M Dods 6-8-0 T Williams 92

BETTING: 3-1 Weetman's Weigh, 7-2 Fame Again, 9-2 Ochos Rios, 5-1 Trojan Hero, Jedi Knight, 7-1 Royal Mark, 20-1 Be Warned

1996: TINKLERS FOLLY 4-9-0 L Charnock (10-1) D Smith 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROYAL MARK 6¾l 5th of 10 to Tadeo in handicap at York (6f, good to soft). WEETMAN'S WEIGH 1¾l 3rd of 7 to Safio in handicap over course and distance (good). TROJAN HERO beat Rochea 1l in claimer at Leicester (1m, good to firm). JEDI KNIGHT 4l 8th of 15 to Rymer's Rascal in handicap at Beverley (7f 100yd, good to firm). OCHOS RIOS 5¾l 5th of 15 to Cim Bom Bom in handicap at Pontefract (6f, good) with FAME AGAIN (2lb worse off) 5¼l 8th. BE WARNED 3¾l 4th to Skyers Flyer in seller here (6f, good to firm).
Selection: JEDI KNIGHT (nap)

5.00 BOOTS AT THE METRO CENTRE LIMITED STAKES
(£2,726: 1m 1f 9yd) (5 runners)

601 (5) 0-50006 SHAMOKIN 23 (Marson Investments Ltd) F Watson 5-9-3 Kimberley Hart (5) 50
602 (4) 0010343 PRIDE OF PENDLE 6 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs L Miller) M Wane 8-9-2 J Carroll [illegible]
603 (3) 5002201 QUEENS CONSUL 8 (F,G) (Miss H Dawson) B Rothwell 7-9-2 M Fenton 98
604 (1) 2350211 NIGHT MIRAGE 4 (D,F,G) (Mr & Mrs G Middlebrook) M Johnston 3-8-10 J Weaver 97
605 (2) 000-12 MISSFORTUNA 14 (BF,F) (St John Collier) M Prescott 3-8-8 G Duffield 86

BETTING: 6-4 Pride Of Pendle, 9-4 Night Mirage, 3-1 Missfortuna, 6-1 Queens Consul, 66-1 Shamokin

1996: WHITE PLAINS 3-8-11 R Mullen (3-1) M Bell 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SHAMOKIN about 7l 6th of 10 to Guesstimation in seller at Ayr (1m 3l, good to firm). PRIDE OF PENDLE about 1¾l 3rd of 20 to Fly To The Stars in the Golden Mile Handicap at Goodwood (1m, good to firm). QUEENS CONSUL beat Durand head in 12-runner handicap at Beverley (1m 100yd, good). NIGHT MIRAGE beat QUEENS CONSUL (3lb better off) head in 5-runner limited stakes at Redcar (1m 1f, good to firm). MISSFORTUNA beat Taden 4l in 10-runner maiden at Nottingham (1m 2f, good to firm).
Selection: NIGHT MIRAGE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Prescott	8	32	25.0	M Fenton	7	28	25.0
M Bell	9	39	23.1	W Ryan	12	58	20.7
D Loder	4	18	22.2	J Weaver	25	126	19.8
M Johnston	26	151	17.2	G Duffield	15	99	15.2
J Berry	22	161	13.7	K Darley	30	211	14.2
T Barron	7	54	13.0	D Wright	4	35	11.4

☐ Seagram, the 1991 Grand National winner, has died. He was 17. Trained by David Barons, Seagram had been in retirement at his owner, Sir Eric Parker's, stud for the past three years. He died after suffering a series of mild attacks of colic. Seagram was bought by Barons in New Zealand for around £3,600; and won 16 of his 70 starts.

ECB chairman unveils radical restructuring plans aimed at improving all levels of the game

MacLaurin sets new standard for cricket

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

A REFORMED county championship building to September play-offs, smaller county staffs and a streamlined one-day structure are the most eye-catching proposals in the strategic plan for cricket *unveiled at Lord's* yesterday by the chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth.

It is behind the shop window, however, at the neglected *lower levels of the* game, that the long-awaited report of Lord MacLaurin and his chief executive, Tim Lamb, will make its most significant impact. *At long last, there* will be a realistic conveyor belt from recreational to professional cricket, theoretically overcoming the disincentives of pursuing the game as a career.

A negative response to the blueprint would be cheap and easy. By the admission of Lord MacLaurin himself "it is not *ideal*" and the proposed *three*-division championship is, at first glance, so original as to be bewildering. It will also seem curious that the volume of domestic one-day cricket is to be increased rather than *decreased*.

However, considering the constraints of player welfare and passionate parochial demands within the professional circuit, *the county* programme recommended is attractive and ingenious, while the improvements to the feeder systems have enormous merit.

Certainly, no one can accuse *Lord MacLaurin and* Lamb of complacency in their research or of amateurism in their approach. Their presentation of the document, entitled *Raising the Standards*, was slick and dramatic. Their words were polished and pointed.

"There is no quick fix when it comes to addressing the issues of cricket," Lord MacLaurin said. "We have to build *from the foundations* up and changing the structure alone is not enough. We have to raise the standards of management and coaching. We need *to be more professional* and disciplined."

Lamb went farther, spelling out to the county delegates, on whom the plan will stand or fall, the consequences of rejection. "Football is capturing the middle classes," he said. "We are in danger of becoming a minor spectator sport."

This was a stark warning *from a man who has spent the* past year in a massive process of consultation at all levels of the game. He knew, from early in the assignment, that the popular panacea of a two-division championship, with *promotion and relegation*, would founder on the rocks of timid, reactionary counties. From then on, it was a case of finding a formula that em*braced appreciable change* and sensitivity.

Where the championship is concerned, the outcome is plainly a halfway house. The *conference system, in which* each group of six does not play games against each other, may seem illogical but Lamb believes it has a number of virtues, not least the guaranteed preservation of 18 *counties, when the weakest* might conceivably have gone to the wall in the more hostile world of two fluid divisions.

Local derbies will also be *preserved, and there is considerable* appeal in the September play-offs to decide placings from one to 18. Prize-money is to be substantially improved, certainly enough to maintain the primacy of the championship against county one-day events.

These, at long last, are to be reduced from three to two. The Board is contracted to stage one further year of the Benson and Hedges Cup but it will then be abolished. The Sunday league, in its present form, will also cease to exist in 1999.

Instead, finishing positions *in the Sunday league next year* will dictate the divisions for a new National League. This will be played over the globally accepted 50-overs span, *rather than the derided 40*, and it will not be restricted to a specific day of the week.

Controversially, the blueprint proposes that each county *will play 25 National* League games — two against each side in their own division and one against each in the other. This is a blatant marketing ploy, balancing the acknowledgement that *championship cricket must* be run at a loss with the requirement to raise money from television rights. In this aim, at least, the format should *succeed*.

A single knockout tournament will operate from 1999 and Lamb suggested it would become the FA Cup of cricket. There will be 60 teams involved, including what are now the Minor Counties and second XIs of first-class sides. Two qualifying rounds involving the minnows will produce 14 teams to join the senior counties in the third round, at which point the non first-class sides will, gratifyingly, be guaranteed a home draw.

By 2000, it is envisaged that the minor counties and sec*ond XI championships* will be phased out and replaced by a single tournament involving 38 Board teams — a more authentic link between club *and county cricket and* a means to the end of reducing county staffs.

At university level, Oxford and Cambridge are to retain their first-class status for at least one more season and, *depending on performance*, could even be joined by other deserving universities in a league tournament.

Club cricket is to be encouraged *to form elite groups of* clubs, geographically linked, into premier leagues — a proposal that is bound to meet resistance from the jealously guarded existing leagues in Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Age-group cricket will focus on under-17s, at which level two-day, one-innings games are to be encouraged, and an extension of the Kwik Cricket *principle into senior schools is* also envisaged as one more part of the most comprehensive and impressive structural plan ever presented. Cricket must embrace it, or forever rue the consequences.

Raising the Standard

The ECB Management Board Blueprint for the Future Playing Structure of Cricket

THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

- County championship divided into three equal conferences with end-of-season play-offs, starting 1998
- One-day competitions to be reduced from three to two in 1999
- Sunday League and Benson and Hedges Cup to be scrapped in 1999, replaced by National League, a two-division 50-overs competition with promotion and relegation
- NatWest Trophy to become the FA Cup of cricket-expanded to 60 clubs with minor sides guaranteed home draw against first-class counties
- Counties encouraged to reduce their playing staffs, probably to a maximum of 25
- Second XI and Minor Counties cricket to be merged into 38-team championship by the year 2000
- Oxford and Cambridge Universities to retain first-class status next year but with warning over their standards
- A network of premier leagues for club players
- More practice time between matches for county players
- *One overseas player per county to remain*
- Central contracting of England players deferred
- More one-day internationals in England, up to maximum of seven per year

ECB

'There is no quick fix when it comes *to addressing the issues of cricket*'

CHRIS HARRIS

Pointing the way: Lord MacLaurin outlines his proposals at Lord's yesterday

Omens look good for Glamorgan title hopes

BY SIMON WILDE

FOR all the talk of the closeness of the race for the Britannic Assurance county championship — and it is close — and the scope for teams to rise swiftly up the table, recent *history* suggests that Glamorgan, the leaders, are in a strong position. In three of the four years since the competition switched exclusively to four-day matches, the team leading the table in the first week *in August* has held on to win the title.

The only champions to be trailing at this stage were Warwickshire, when they won *the second of their* back-to-back titles in 1995. On August 7, they were 22 points behind Northamptonshire but possessed a game in hand that *they put to good use a fortnight* later, though they did not in fact move to the top until the last day of the month.

Now, Glamorgan hold a ten-point lead over their nearest rivals, but there are *likely to be one* or two twists yet before the race is run as the Welsh county, who last won the championship under Tony Lewis in 1969, are not involved in the round of matches that start today. They will watch with interest the progress of the chasing pack, only one of whom, Middlesex, who are a distant eighth, have a game in hand on them.

Matthew Maynard's team *also have one of the easier run*-ins, having already played five of the leading six sides. Only Yorkshire, who have risen to fifth with efficient performances against Durham and Northamptonshire, but also *do not* play today, have a comparable finish.

Kent and Essex, meanwhile, have each to play three of their rivals, starting today when they meet at Canterbury in what is undoubtedly the *match of the round. Kent will* be without Headley and Essex without Hussain, both involved with England.

Of the others, Gloucestershire can return to the top with a comprehensive victory over a *thinly resourced Somerset* at Taunton, while Warwickshire, fresh from their rout of Sussex, travel to Blackpool to tackle Lancashire. Ostler is *expected to open* for Warwickshire in the absence of the injured Knight and Moles.

TABLE

	P	W	L	D	Bt	Bl	Pts
Glamorgan (10)	11	5	1	5	29	35	159
Gloucs (13)	11	5	3	3	22	38	149
Kent (4)	11	5	4	2	24	37	147
Essex (5)	11	4	3	4	29	40	145
Yorkshire (6)	11	4	2	5	22	38	137
Warwickshire (8)	11	4	1	6	20	31	133
Leics (1)	12	2	0	10	28	40	130
Middlesex (9)	10	4	3	3	17	33	123
Notts (17)	11	3	2	6	9	39	114
Lancashire (15)	11	3	4	4	23	30	113
Worcs (7)	10	2	1	7	25	30	113
Somerset (11)	10	2	2	6	23	37	110
Surrey (3)	11	2	3	6	24	31	105
Hampshire (14)	11	2	3	6	28	25	103
Northants (16)	11	2	3	6	17	31	98
Durham (18)	11	2	4	5	14	33	94
Derbyshire (2)	11	0	6	5	16	40	71
Sussex (12)	11	0	6	5	15	40	70

(1996 positions in brackets)

□ Worcestershire's record includes eight points as side batting last in match where scores finished level

Atherton prepares in private

BY IVO TENNANT

MICHAEL ATHERTON, the England captain, had an hour-long private net at Trent Bridge yesterday with his predecessor, Graham Gooch. Now *working as a selector*, Gooch had been invited to practise with the players by David Lloyd. "After all, he has some time on his hands now he has retired," the coach said.

The other England players joined them later, although Darren Gough, who has a sore knee, confined himself to batting. He will have a fitness test today, but is expected to *be fit for the fifth Test against* Australia, which starts tomorrow. All 13 members of the party are being retained until then. David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, concurred with the Australians' estimation that this is likely *to be the best pitch of the* series.

Both Hollioakes will make their Test debuts. "If I believe my own press I will be going *down the wrong channel*," Adam said. "To some extent we are coming into the match cold as the rule in the pavilion at Surrey is that there is no television during the hours of play. So we have not seen *much of the series so far*." His younger brother, Ben, added: "I could not imagine making my debut in a bigger situation."

Australia will field an unchanged side, Mark Taylor's back injury having improved *after a few days' rest. Steve* Waugh, the vice-captain, said that England's decision to play both Hollioakes was a bold one. "They have been picked for their attitude and temperament more than anything. Ben is obviously not ruffled by pressure," he said.

Shane Warne would not comment on his negotiations to play county cricket next *year, but he is thought to have* received at least one offer of more than £100,000.

Perfect grip is schoolboy stuff

THE idea of a bat rubber that can be moulded to the individ*ual grip is so straightforward* that it is hard to imagine it was conceived as part of a school project. After a series of tests, it is now on the market *and Neil Smith, the* Warwickshire all-rounder who is endorsing the product, believes it can also assist in coaching.

He was approached by Stuart Sanderson, a former colleague at Leamington Cricket Club, whose son was responsible for the idea. The rubber is rolled on to the handle, heated until it changes colour and gripped by the batsman to leave an *imprint that remains* on cooling.

Smith said: "I found originally that the ridges between the finger holds were too big and *restrictive*, but now *I am* using a thinner rubber and it is *extremely* comfortable. On our coaching courses over the winter we do 90 minutes on grip, stance and backlift, but that can get forgotten when *the kids go away*. With the handle moulded to the correct *grip it is no longer a problem*."

Close encounter

So much for neighbourly *friendship. Gloucestershire* have written to Somerset in protest at a decision not to allow members of the visiting club into the pavilion at Taunton during the Axa Life League game on Sunday. "We *feel disappointed that* Somerset have imposed restrictions on our members," Colin Sexstone, the Gloucestershire chief executive, said. However, Peter Anderson, his *counterpart at Somerset, said:* "We only have 600 seats in front of the pavilion and we feel our members should be able to use them for the Sunday game." Gloucester say that they are unlikely to reciprocate when Somerset visit next season.

Running story

A hand-written, 1,000-word account by Michael Atherton of his match-saving unbeaten *185 against South Africa in* 1995 is up for sale. Proceeds will be *split between* Atherton's benefit fund and the pavilion restoration appeal at Hinton Charterhouse Cricket Club, near Bath.

Trevor Vennett-Smith, an auctioneer specialising in *sporting memorabilia*, said: "I think Atherton pieces will be considered highly collectable in the future, because he is the longest-serving England captain and, in particular, this refers to one of the greatest defensive *innings in Test* history. In 100 years' time it will be considered a museum piece." Offers to Box 672, 25 Down Road, Merrow, Guildford, Surrey, GUI 2PY.

Winning team

Bruton Cricket Club, from Somerset, is showing what can be achieved with co*operation between the county*, schools, the local authority and themselves.

In the four years of their development programme, they have set up three junior teams with regular coaching, guided four boys into Somer*set youth teams and helped* to fund a bowling machine and an all-weather pitch. Five of their members have become qualified coaches. The men's team has also won two successive promotions.

Changing times

Attitudes appear to be changing for the better. The fact that certain counties would like to pull their players out of Eng*land under-19 games to play* in the championship is evidence of a general commitment to youth. Contrast this with the case of Mathew Dowman: In 1993, he scored a record 267 against West Indies Under-19 — *but was not chosen for the* next Nottinghamshire game against Durham.

Fast healer

Two years ago Alex Wylie, a promising fast bowler with Worcestershire, was forced to retire because of back problems. Sensing improvement last winter, he built up his strength in consultation with a sports specialist at Lilleshall and decided to have another go.

Tom Moody, a former colleague, persuaded Dennis *Lillee to take a look at his* action while Wylie was in Australia. Now 24, Wylie believes he is clear of problems. He has played for the second *team at Worcester and will* discover next month whether he has done enough to earn a contract next season.

Managing nicely

Long Eaton Cricket Club's under-15 side went through last season without a win: this time they have reached the national rounds of the Milfern Trophy as champions of the Derbyshire section. Dean Cooper, who took on sole responsibility for managing the side at the start of the campaign, has every reason to feel proud — particularly as he is just 17.

Spelling test

If David Beckham was aggrieved at the misspelling of the name on his shirt for the FA Charity Shield on Sunday, then imagine how Shaun Young must feel. *The* Gloucestershire all-rounder has driven a sponsored car spelling his first name S-E-A-N for the entire summer.

EXTRA

COVER

FATHER TIMES

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This week *The Times* offers you the chance to get a FREE copy of the September issue of the BBC's fantastic football magazine, *Match of the Day*, worth £2.50.

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Match of the Day, with 148 colour pages, contains expert viewpoints from Britain's leading pundits, great pictures and good writing.

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CRICKET: SRI LANKA PAIR ESTABLISH HIGHEST PARTNERSHIP

Jayasuriya closing fast on Lara's Test record

FROM EMMA LEVINE, IN COLOMBO

FOR a man who built his reputation as a one-day wonder, Sanath Jayasuriya is now on the verge of conquering the greatest cricketing peak of them all. After batting for two whole days in the Sri Lankan sun, his unbeaten 326 in the Test match against India is just 49 runs short of Brian Lara's Test record of 375. He and Roshan Mahanama have already set a record for the highest Test partnership — an unbeaten 548.

The opener was surrounded by television cameras at the close of play yesterday, receiving congratulations as though the individual record were already his. He appeared undaunted by the standard that he has set himself.

"We went in with a big task, initially to save the follow-on," Jayasuriya said, "but, as the innings progressed, I never set sights on breaking records. Just played my natural game and tried my best, facing it ball by ball. I'll come back tomorrow and see what happens."

Mahanama is in the unusual position of having scored a double-century to relatively little acclaim. However, his innings is the more crucial for his future. His last Test century came in August 1993.

As the partnership grew yesterday, milestones were passed and records set by the hour. Both members of the Bloomfield Cricket and Athletic Club in Colombo, Jayasuriya and Mahanama began their joint effort at start of play on Monday and this is only the second time in Test history that two batsmen have batted through two entire days. Sir Garfield Sobers and Frank Worrell did so for West Indies against England, at Bridgetown in January 1960.

Nilesh Kulkarni, the India left-arm spinner, must have thought that he was going to enjoy his introduction to Test cricket, as he took the only wicket to fall with his first delivery, dismissing Marvin Atapattu for 26. Reality, however, has now hit hard, and even experienced bowlers such as Anil Kumble ended the fourth day with figures that he would rather forget.

Jayasuriya survived a close leg-before call yesterday and Mahanama was granted a second life thanks to a missed stumping chance on Monday. Other than that, more than 12 hours of batting have proved chanceless.

Most disappointing on a day of celebration for Sri Lankan cricket was the pitiful number of spectators there to witness it. This was in stark contrast to the packed stands for the Asia Cup one-day tournament just a fortnight before. This, however, was of little concern to Duleep Mendis, the Sri Lanka team manager, who looked on with a contented smile.

The pair's team-mates took on the role of cheering spectators and there were frequent sightings of Arjuna Ranatunga on the balcony wearing only a towel wrapped around his middle. It was obvious that he had given up any idea of batting for the day.

One man accustomed to taking the Sri Lanka batting honours is Aravinda De Silva, who has now spent two days padded up and waiting. That his own personal record of 267 — the highest score for a Sri Lankan in Test cricket — went by the wayside did not appear to concern him. The record that, no doubt, gave the pair, and the team, most pleasure was the beating of the previous highest Test partnership — 467, by Martin Crowe and Andrew Jones in Wellington in February 1991 — when Sri Lanka were the opponents.

Whether or not Jayasuriya passes Lara's total today, many more records are there to be broken, with even the highest innings of a team in Test cricket (903) now appearing on the horizon. Certainly, Jayasuriya is not overburdened by the weight of expectation. "I always sleep well. Tonight is no exception," he said before departing the ground yesterday evening.

TEST MATCH RECORDS

☐ The partnership between Jayasuriya and Mahanama, so far worth 548 runs, has broken two world Test records (previous records in brackets):

— Highest second-wicket partnership (451 by W H Ponsford and D G Bradman for Australia v England, Edgbaston, 1934).

— Highest partnership for any wicket (467 by A H Jones and M D Crowe for New Zealand v Sri Lanka, Wellington, 1990-91).

☐ Jayasuriya's 326 not out is the eighth highest score in Test cricket, the fourteenth triple-century and the highest for Sri Lanka (beating Aravinda de Silva's 267 against New Zealand, also in Wellington, 1990-91). He has batted for 782 minutes, faced 558 balls and hit 33 fours and two sixes.

☐ Mahanama has batted for 740 minutes, faced 551 balls and hit 25 fours.

☐ Sri Lanka's total is their highest in Test cricket.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA: First innings 537 for 8 dec (S R Tendulkar 143, M Azharuddin 126, N S Sidhu 111, R S Dravid 69)

SRI LANKA: First innings

S T Jayasuriya not out 326
M S Atapattu c Mongia b Kulkarni 26
R S Mahanama not out 211
Extras (b 7, lb 7, nb 6, w 4) 24
Total (1 wkt) 587

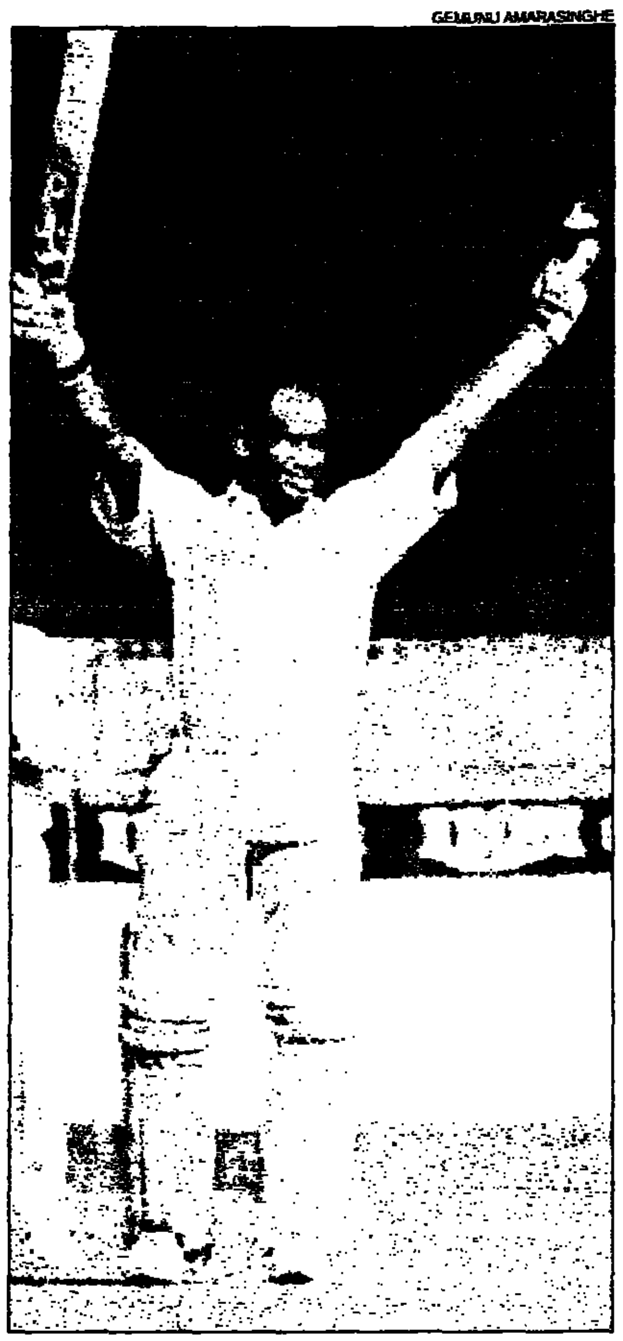
P A de Silva, *A Ranatunga, D R M Jayawardene, †R S Kaluwitharana, W P U J C Vaas, K R Pushpakumara, M Muralitharan and K J Silva to bat

FALL OF WICKET: 1-39.

BOWLING: Prasad 21-1-73-0; Kuruvilla 11-2-47-0; Chauhan 53-7-159-0; Kumble 52-8-143-0; Kulkarni 46-8-113-1; Ganguly 5-0-34-0; Tendulkar 1-0-2-0; Dravid 1-0-2-0.

Umpires: K T Francis (Sri Lanka) and S G Randell (Australia).

GEMUNU AMARASINGHE



Jayasuriya celebrates reaching 300 yesterday

RUGBY LEAGUE

Best of British face tough task

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

IN less than three months, Great Britain embark on a three-match series against Australia that has the look of Christians and lions after the lopsided results in the world club championship.

The somewhat false impression is that the domestic game is in irreversible decline and that Britain might as well not bother turning up at Wembley, Old Trafford and Elland Road in November. Whereas deficiencies were highlighted only every two years in the international arena, 52 losses in 60 world club championship matches have magnified them disproportionately.

A shortage of skilled players and lack of intensity of competition, compared with Australia and New Zealand, has been shown in sometimes gruesome close-up. The tenth best Australasian side beating Britain's tenth best was hardly a revelation: their bottom team hammering our top one was. The gap between the hemispheres visibly widened in the 64-14 defeat of Bradford Bulls by Auckland Warriors.

The round-robin system was unwieldy, iniquitous to Australian sides who lost only once, or in Penrith's case won all six matches and were still eliminated, but it was designed to deliver four clubs each from Europe and Australasia into a knockout format. Were a British contender to emerge in the final in Auckland, on October 18, they will have earned the right.

It sounds patronising after a 54-10 win, but Wayne Bennett, the Brisbane Broncos coach, said at Thrum Hall on Monday that Halifax Blue Sox had improved immeasurably on the first leg. The score read better than 76-0. At that rate, Halifax might give Brisbane a game by the millennium.

"Sure, there's a gap, but it would be wider without this championship," Bennett said. "Teams here are learning and it'll have been an invaluable experience for them. At the top end, English clubs are not that far off the money. If you put Wigan and London Broncos in the Australian competition, they might struggle for a couple of years, as all newcomers do, but they'd come good."

Bennett is far from convinced that the international series this autumn will be a foregone conclusion. He singled out the Wigan trio of Andy Farrell, Jason Robinson and Gary Connolly as players of genuine world class and liked what he saw at Leeds of Adrian Morley and Marvin Golden, two youngsters with bright futures.

Despite the wreckage at club level, Great Britain, as past experience has shown, can usually put out a competitive side, one fully capable of the customary single win at Australia's expense, but perhaps not a series victory.

Och Aye Mackay on high

D MACKAY, of Wetherby, West Yorkshire, is the winner of the weekly prize for the Interactive Team Cricket game.

The team, Och Aye Mackay, scored 2,288 points last week, mainly due to the efforts of the all-rounder in the side, Craig White, of Yorkshire, who produced a personal tally of 467 points. The prize this week is a print of David Gower, signed and framed, a first edition of the *PCA Year Book '97*, signed by members of the Professional Cricketers' Association, and two tickets for a day at an Ashes Test match.

OCH AYE MACKAY: Batsmen: C J Adams (Derbyshire); G A Hick (Worcestershire); D Byas (Yorkshire); A S Rollins (Derbyshire); A P Grayson (Essex). All-rounder: C White (Yorkshire). Wicketkeeper: R J Blakey (Yorkshire). Bowlers: A A Donald (Warwickshire); D Gough (Yorkshire); B C Hollioake (Surrey); M A Robinson (Sussex).

EACH team, depending on when it is registered, will be allocated a number of transfer allowances. If you register in May, your team will be allocated ten transfers; in June you will be allocated eight transfers, in July six, in August four and in September two.

You may use as many or as few as you wish, but they must replace like for like, ie one bowler for another bowler. All transfers must be made before a first-class match. Transfer periods will be set weekly and any transfers made in one transfer period will become effective for the matches that begin within the next transfer period.

The transfer line opened on Wednesday May 21 and will remain open for the season. Transfers must be made by midnight on a Monday in order to be effective for any first-class matches beginning after that date. Transfers may only be made by telephone by calling:

0891 884 826 (0990 100 346 outside UK)

YOU may check your team score and position in ITC by calling:

0891 884 824 (0990 100 349 outside UK)

QUERIES on all other ITC matters, including details of how to enter, should be made to: 01582 702720

THE TIMES ITC INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET

IN ASSOCIATION WITH AXA EQUITY & LAW

THE LEADING 100 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET GAME

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts	Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts	Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts	Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
1	M J S 1 (M Squires)	19958	26	Sarawana (R Knowle)	18683	51	The Sad Team (J Swain)	18445	76	Kasejenny (N Macrae)	18210
2	Kalb's Corkers 4 (N Kalb)	19516	27	14 Lobs (P Johnson)	18649	52	J S W C 256 (J Swiries)	18440	77	Cleck Yorkies (M Hepworth)	18206
3	Wansford House 3 (PR O'Brien)	19285	28	Paulines Stars (Ms P Howell)	18642	53	Points Galore (D Fenton)	18424	78	Dawns Dynamos (Miss D Shepherd)	18202
4	The Twins (B Collinson)	19187	29	The 1997 X I (Miss JM Hutchin)	18632	54=	Fantasy Formbk D (G Crutchley)	18407	79	Caroline C (A Luckhurst)	18199
5	Orchid M & O (N Johns)	19126	30	Debt Release (S Lamber)	18625	54=	Ken's First X I (K Hannan)	18407	80	Kalb's Corkers 1 (N Kalb)	18181
6	Ian's Imperials (I Johnston)	19064	31	Wells Fargo (BE Howes)	18616	56	Sharps Eleven (M Sharp)	18397	81	York City Away (J McLaren)	18163
7	Porius (W Clarke)	19056	32	The Braughing Duck (P Moore)	18615	57	Windy's Warriors (G Miller)	18392	82	Basil's Bashers (S Moore)	18158
8	Bacardi Boys (M Woodley)	19043	33	Teddy 2 (B Bare)	18613	58	Rug Catchers (A Rees)	18380	83	Brains Team (Howes)	18152
9	Friday Night X I (B McFerran)	19029	34	Old Wringtonians (TJ Hillman)	18608	59	Bartholomew (A Bartholomew)	18377	84	Jones Boys One (M Jones)	18148
10	Daves Dosers (D Tattoo)	19001	35=	Webbers Post (EG Evans)	18594	60	Huntastic (A Frazer)	18375	85	Claremont 4 (M Gardiner)	18126
11	Fantasy Formbk E (G Crutchley)	18996	35=	Sams The Man 5 (G Sampson)	18594	61	Tory Boys (G Jackson)	18365	86	The First X V (M Pawley)	18124
12	Ace All Rounders (A Eade)	18957	37	Fantasy Formbk I (G Crutchley)	18593	62	The Flowerpot Men (D Blackburn)	18364	87	Edward Ross (A Luckhurst)	18123
13	Off Spinners In A (A Milroy)	18933	38=	Daves Demons (D Taggoo)	18590	63	Sam's The Man 3 (G Sampson)	18362	88	Shadow Leader 1 (D Findlay)	18110
14	Mow And Go Hap (N Johns)	18909	38=	Eddie Woo (A Luckhurst)	18590	64	J M's XI (J McCusker)	18305	89	Bartys Batters (M Tarbun)	18106
15	Rob's Barmy Army (R Anderson)	18906	40	Injury Free X I (IJ Hunt)	18571	65=	Caroline A (A Luckhurst)	18301	90	Kamikaze Bowler (D Finlay)	18083
16	All Round Ability (W Burnett)	18877	41	Roe Roe Roe Your B (R Roe)	18554	65=	Off 2 A Good Start (J Swiries)	18301	91	All Hallows (J McCormack)	18081
17	Lemar Old Boys (P Tranter)	18861	42	Nine Ian Bothams (P Johnson)	18536	67	Kim's Best (D Geraghty)	18300	92	M J F 2 (M Squires)	18071
18	The Runrats (D Tattoo)	18820	43	Four Ian Bothams (P Johnson)	18532	68	Carey Selected (C Carey)	18290	93	Cats Eyes (N Marchant)	18068
19	Hursts Cack Hander (R Jackson)	18805	44	Doodyteds (J Royston)	18518	69	—	18282	94	Thunder Bunnies (Miss DC Bates)	18063
20	Verity's Vintage No —	18778	45	Jimmyshire C C (JAD Curthoys)	18510	70	Monty Bears (M White)	18280	95	Melvyn Maldini X I (ID Wrey)	18062
21	Dave's Dependables (D Tattoo)	18767	46	Fantasy Formbk H (G Crutchley)	18505	71	Diamond White (R White)	18270	96	Freds Truemen 3 —	18061
22	Three Lobs (P Johnson)	18764	47	Floppy Fat Bellies (J Harris)	18490	72	Barney Boys (BE Howes)	18267	97	Anne's Dream X I (Ms A Aitchison)	18051
23	Retirement Hero's (M Pettman)	18728	48	No More Fridays Ou (I Ellis)	18482	73	Philosofirsts (P Shorter)	18261	98	M W B F B I T C (R McKenzie)	18043
24	Toblit (A Luckhurst)	18720	49	All Rounders X I (N Pember)	18454	74	Orun My Hat (T Bullen)	18226	99	Alisa Angels (A Wood)	18040
25	Colemans Balls (D Blackburn)	18708	50	The Funky Monkeys (A Moss)	18447	75	Wicket Kings (D Fenton)	18220	100	We Murdered Yal (M Billington)	18035

PCA PROFESSIONAL CRICKETERS' ASSOCIATION

ECB

INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Scores in the first four columns cover the past week; the final column is the player's overall points total. The figures include all matches completed by August 4. Overseas players are shown in **bold type**, Rising Stars in *italic*.

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Bonus pts	Weekly total	Overall total
Batsmen (001-146)						
Category A						
C J Adams (001)	254	0	2	20	314	1770
G F Archer (002)	87	0	0	0	87	1155
M A Atherton (003)	0	0	0	0	0	1270
C W J Athey (004)	97	0	1	-15	102	1173
R J Bailey (005)	108	5	1	5	238	1864
K J Barnett (006)	78	0	1	0	98	945
D J Bicknell (007)	0	0	0	0	0	358
G S Blewett (008)	20	0	1	0	40	1105
D C Boon (009)	48	0	2	-20	68	1085
P D Bowler (010)	0	0	0	0	0	1399
A D Brown (011)	1	0	0	0	1	1319
M A Butcher (012)	4	0	0	0	4	1474
P A Cottey (013)	31	0	2	-20	51	834
J P Crawley (014)	0	0	0	0	0	1383
K M Curran (015)	129	3	0	-10	170	1615
M T G Elliott (016)	0	0	0	0	0	1829
N H Fairbrother (017)	0	0	0	0	0	1138
J E R Gallian (018)	0	0	0	0	0	1042
M W Gatting (019)	4	0	2	0	44	1139
G A Gooch (020)	0	0	0	0	0	582
M L Hayden (021)	0	0	0	0	0	1947
D L Hemp (022)	154	0	0	10	164	1413
G A Hick (023)	129	0	3	5	194	2176
A J Hollioake (024)	16	0	0	0	16	1488
N Hussain (025)	217	0	1	-5	232	1894
S P James (026)	170	0	1	-10	180	1747
D M Jones (027)	0	0	0	0	0	554
J H Kallis (028)	12	2	1	0	72	1458
N V Knight (029)	0	0	0	0	0	894
J S Laney (030)	0	0	0	0	0	817
M N Lathwell (031)	29	0	1	0	49	721
G D Lloyd (032)	0	0	0	0	0	1040
M B Loye (033)	0	0	0	0	0	828
M P Maynard (034)	99	0	1	5	124	1344
A McGrath (035)	128	0	1	5	153	656
R R Montgomerie (036)	0	0	0	0	0	243
T M Moody (037)	86	3	3	-15	191	1158
H Morris (038)	19	0	2	0	59	1151
M D Moxon (039)	34	0	0	0	34	489
T L Penney (040)	46	0	2	0	86	1090
M R Ramprakash (041)	98	0	0	5	103	1576
R T Robinson (042)	64	0	2	5	109	725
P V Simmons (043)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M J Slater (044)	18	0	2	0	58	176
B F Smith (045)	149	0	0	10	159	750
R A Smith (046)	0	0	0	0	0	1321
A J Stewart (047)	0	0	0	-20	-20	2198
M A Taylor (048)	0	0	0	0	0	848
G P Thorpe (049)	0	0	0	-20	-20	1781
M P Vaughan (050)	93	4	0	0	173	865
T R Ward (051)	66	0	0	5	71	1155
M E Waugh (052)	37	1	1	0	77	1200
S R Waugh (053)	62	0	0	5	67	1211
A P Wells (054)	67	0	4	0	147	1129
V J Wells (055)	29	0	1	0	49	1687
W P C Weston (056)	0	0	0	0	0	556
J J Whitaker (057)	39	0	2	0	79	1214
Category B						
D A Blenkiron (058)	0	0	0	0	0	0
D Byas (059)	78	0	4	0	158	1656
M E Cassar (060)	0	0	0	0	0	117
G R Cowdrey (061)	53	0	2	0	93	817
R J Cunliffe (062)	0	0	0	0	0	523
T S Curtis (063)	69	0	2	0	109	849
A Dale (064)	27	1	3	0	107	998
J A Daley (065)	0	0	0	0	0	20
R I Dawson (066)	15	0	0	0	15	24
M P Dowman (067)	153	1	2	10	223	1226
A W Evans (068)	15	0	0	0	15	60
A Flintoff (069)	0	0	0	0	0	372
A Fordham (070)	43	0	2	-20	63	374
D P Fulton (071)	0	0	0	0	0	1038
A P Grayson (072)	131	4	2	5	256	2269
K Greenfield (073)	38	0	1	-20	38	1039
A Habib (074)	0	0	0	0	0	510
T H C Hancock (075)	52	1	0	5	77	1012
R J Harden (076)	0	0	0	0	0	565
J C Harrison (077)	0	0	0	0	0	0
A N Hayhurst (078)	0	0	0	0	0	80
G R Haynes (079)	97	2	0	0	137	1521
D R Hewson (080)	0	0	0	0	0	0
A J Hibbert (081)	0	0	0	0	0	77
T P Hodgson (082)	0	0	0	0	0	143
P C L Holloway (083)	28	0	0	0	28	1044
W J House (084)	0	0	0	0	0	389
S Hutton (085)	20	0	0	-20	0	128
P Johnson (086)	121	0	2	10	171	1119
M Keech (087)	0	0	0	0	0	656
W S Kendall (088)	0	0	0	0	0	687
G J Kennis (089)	0	0	0	0	0	69
R A Kettleborough (090)	0	0	0	0	0	50
G A Khan (091)	9	0	1	-20	9	205
W G Khan (092)	0	0	0	0	0	169
D A Leatherdale (093)	180	3	0	15	255	1673
N J Lenham (094)	0	0	0	0	0	398
J J B Lewis (095)	232	0	1	10	262	1337
N J Llong (096)	0	0	0	0	0	898
M A Lynch (097)	0	0	0	0	0	1092
G I Macmillan (098)	0	0	0	0	0	152
D L Maddy (099)	76	3	0	5	141	1480
M R May (100)	68	0	0	5	73	483
P C McKeown (101)	0	0	0	0	0	209
A A Metcalfe (102)	0	0	0	0	0	333
S P Moffat (103)	0	0	0	0	0	295
A J Moles (104)	49	0	0	0	49	829
J E Morris (105)	13	0	2	0	53	1187
K Newell (106)	99	0	0	0	99	989
D P Ostler (107)	64	0	1	5	89	1242
J E Owen (108)	0	0	0	0	0	142
K A Parsons (109)	71	0	0	5	76	1241
S D Peters (110)	0	0	0	0	0	202
R R Pollard (111)	0	0	0	0	0	672
J C Pooley (112)	34	0	0	0	34	966
M J Powell (113)	0	0	0	0	0	60
P J Prichard (114)	68	0	0	0	68	1161
T A Radford (115)	0	0	0	0	0	181
R K Rao (116)	183	0	2	10	233	925
J D Ratcliffe (117)	5	0	0	0	5	907
D J Roberts (118)	72	0	0	0	72	337
D D J Robinson (119)	54	0	3	0	114	840
A S Rollins (120)	85	0	2	0	125	1290
M A Roseberry (121)	23	0	0	0	23	220
D J G Sales (122)	0	0	0	0	0	416
O A Shah (123)	11	0	0	0	11	321
N Shahid (124)	0	0	0	0	0	304
A Singh (125)	11	0	2	-20	31	482
E T Smith (126)	64	0	0	0	64	532
N J Speak (127)	7	0	2	0	47	630
K R Spring (128)	10	0	0	0	10	965
J P Stephenson (129)	0	0	0	0	0	1598
I J Sutcliffe (130)	130	0	0	10	140	799
A J Swann (131)	0	0	0	0	0	0
N R Taylor (132)	75	0	1	0	95	785
S P Titchard (133)	0	0	0	0	0	260
N J Trainor (134)	75	0	0	5	80	825
M E Trescothick (135)	8	0	1	0	28	143
T A Tweats (136)	0	0	0	0	0	159
M J Walker (137)	0	0	0	0	0	856
M A Wagh (138)	87	0	2	5	132	1096
C D Walsh (139)	0	0	0	0	0	0
T C Walton (140)	10	0	0	0	10	444
P E Wellings (141)	0	0	0	0	0	33
R M S Weston (142)	0	0	0	0	0	33
P R Whitaker (143)	0	0	0	0	0	0
G W White (144)	0	0	0	0	0	357
M G N Windows (145)	35	0	1	0	55	135
A J Wright (146)	0	0	0	0	0	961
All-rounders (147-185)						
M W Alleyne (147)	22	4	1	-20	102	2223
I D Austin (148)	0	0	0	0	0	1502
M G Bevan (149)	16	0	0	0	16	820
D R Brown (150)	31	7	3	0	231	1974
G P Butcher (151)	92	3	0	0	152	736
D J Capel (152)	1	1	0	0	21	504
P D Collingwood (153)	0	0	0	0	0	539
D G Cork (154)	15	1	0	0	35	199
R D B Croft (155)	107	8	1	5	292	1931
P A J DeFreitas (156)	83	5	1	-10	193	1428
V C Drakes (157)	59	10	1	0	279	1118
K P Dutch (158)	3	0	0	0	3	561
M A Ealham (159)	70	2	0	5	115	1923
S C Ecclestone (160)	59	0	0	0	59	893
K P Evans (161)	3	5	2	-20	123	1124
M V Fleming (162)	20	3	0	0	80	1591
J P Hewitt (163)	4	2	0	0	44	1375
K J Innes (164)	0	0	0	0	0	60
R C Irani (165)	102	3	0	5	167	1598
K D James (166)	0	0	0	0	0	984
B P Julian (167)	71	1	0	5	96	432
S R Lampitt (168)	0	0	0	0	0	1164
D R Law (169)	33	0	1	0	53	1287
S G Law (170)	239	2	1	10	309	2223
C C Lewis (171)	34	0	0	0	34	1386
A C Morris (172)	46	0	3	0	106	402
A L Penberthy (173)	22	2	1	0	82	1339
G M Roberts (174)	0	0	0	0	0	56
N M K Smith (175)	61	0	1	-20	61	1434
J N Snape (176)	5	0	0	0	5	1174
V S Solanki (177)	61	0	2	5	108	771
P A Strang (178)	0	2	0	-20	20	2088
C M Tolley (179)	116	3	0	5	181	1406
Wasim Akram (180)	0	0	0	0	0	268
M Watkinson (181)	0	0	0	0	0	746
P N Weekes (182)	8	1	0	0	28	1279
C M Wells (183)	0	0	0	0	0	0
C White (184)	167	11	3	20	467	2254
S Young (185)	0	0	0	0	0	1945
Wicketkeepers (186-216)						
A N Aymes (186)	0	0	0	0	0	1511
J N Batty (187)	0	0	0	0	0	72
R J Blakey (188)	98	0	5	5	203	1837
K R Brown (189)	50	0	1	5	75	1641
M Burns (190)	0	0	0	0	0	860
C A Chapman (191)	0	0	0	0	0	0
I Dawood (192)	0	0	0	0	0	91
T Frost (193)	0	0	2	0	40	739
S P Griffiths (194)	0	0	0	0	0	81
I A Healy (195)	33	0	1/1	0	93	1553
W K Hegg (196)	0	0	0	0	0	1286
B J Hyam (197)	0	0	0	0	0	189
D A Kenway (198)	0	0	0	0	0	82
K M Krikken (199)	78	0	3/1	0	178	1222
D G C Ligertwood (200)	0	0	0	0	0	0
S A Marsh (201)	17	0	6	0	137	1449
C P Metson (202)	0	0	0	0	0	80
P Moores (203)	49	0	6/1	-20	189	1173
P A Nixon (204)	18	0	3/2	0	158	1720
W M Noon (205)	61	0	0	0	61	1186
K J Piper (206)	27	0	3	0	87	294
S J Rhodes (207)	11	0	0	0	11	1275
D Ripley (208)	75	0	2	0	115	990
R J Rollins (209)	36	0	2	0	76	1344
R C Russell (210)	30	0	4	0	110	2139
A D Shaw (211)	43	0	4	0	123	968
M P Speight (212)	49	0	1/1	0	109	1550
R J Turner (213)	123	0	4	10	213	1502
R J Warren (214)	37	0	2	-20	57	818
P Whitticase (215)	0	0	0	0	0	0
R C J Williams (216)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bowlers (217-347)						
Category A						
J A Afford (217)	0	0	0	0	0	0
S J W Andrew (218)	5	3	0	0	65	156
M C J Ball (219)	50	3	0	5	115	1157
R T Bates (220)	0	0	0	0	0	506
J E Benjamin (221)	0	0	0	0	0	390
M M Betts (222)	27	6	1	0	167	563
M P Bicknell (223)	4	0	0	0	4	1483
J N B Bovill (224)	0	0	0	0	0	727
M T Brimson (225)	0	2	0	-20	20	285
S J E Brown (226)	5	11	0	10	235	1035
A R Caddick (227)	16	5	0	10	126	1728
G Chapple (228)	0	0	0	0	0	678
C A Connor (229)	0	0	0	0	0	244
A P Cowan (230)	28	4	0	0	108	1651
D M Cox (231)	0	0	0	0	0	84
R P Davis (232)	12	0	2	0	52	384
A A Donald (233)	23	13	0	0	283	1483
A R C Fraser (234)	9	3	0	0	69	1155
A F Giles (235)	4	6	0	0	124	1411
J N Gillespie (236)	0	0	0	0	0	999
D Gough (237)	22	4	0	0	102	1946
A J Harris (238)	11	6	1	-20	131	1010
P J Hartley (239)	3	2	0	0	43	1340
D W Headley (240)	25	5	0	0	125	935
R K Illingworth (241)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M C Ilott (242)	0	0	0	0	0	799
P W Jarvis (243)	11	0	0	0	11	732
R L Johnson (244)	0	1	0	-20	0	1222
G Keedy (245)	0	0	0	0	0	151
R J Kirtley (246)	2	1	0	0	22	715
J D Lewry (247)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M J McCague (248)	0	1	0	0	20	1261
G D McGrath (249)	0	3	2	-20	80	1309
D E Malcolm (250)	9	5	0	0	109	1251
P J Martin (251)	0	0	0	0	0	1376
R J Maru (252)	0	0	0	0	0	317
D J Millns (253)	55	2	1	5	120	1161
Mohammad Akram (254)	18	3	1	-20	78	565
A D Mullally (255)	13	1	1	0	53	994
T A Munton (256)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mushtaq Ahmed (257)	0	0	0	0	0	1002
P J Newport (258)	23	2	0	0	63	743
G J Parsons (259)	0	0	0	0	0	543
M M Patel (260)	0	0	0	0	0	0
R M Pearson (261)	0	0	0	0	0	61
A R K Pierson (262)	17	3	1	0	97	712
P R Reiffel (263)	0	0	0	0	0	1090
G D Rose (264)	4	1	1	0	44	1981
I D K Salisbury (265)	0	0	0	0	0	884
A Sheriyar (266)	0	0	0	0	0	1008
K J Shine (267)	0	0	0	0	0	1107
C E W Silverwood (268)	8	6	0	0	128	979
A M Smith (269)	5	1	0	0	25	1589
R D Stemp (270)	14	7	2	0	194	1197
P M Such (271)	0	5	1	-20	100	1282
J P Taylor (272)	40	9	1	10	250	1399
P C R Tufnell (273)	0	0	0	0	0	609
S D Udal (274)	0	0	0	0	0	1500
S K Warne (275)	1	6	0	10	131	1715
Waqar Younis (276)	34	5	0	0	134	1360
S L Watkin (277)	1	4	0	0	81	939
N F Williams (278)	0	0	0	0	0	396
J Wood (279)	21	4	2	0	141	355
Category B						
U Afzaal (280)	13	1	0	0	33	710
P Aldred (281)	8	1	0	0	28	636
D A Altree (282)	0	0	0	0	0	40
G J Batty (283)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M A V Bell (284)	0	0	0	0	0	90
J Boiling (285)	79	1	4	5	184	825
M N Bowen (286)	19	0	0	0	19	1252
J E Brinkley (287)	0	0	0	0	0	7
J F Brown (288)	0	0	0	0	0	80
R J Chapman (289)	0	1	0	-20	0	323
V P Clarke (290)	75	1	0	0	95	1383
D A Cosker (291)	3	3	0	0	63	656
D M Cousins (292)	0	0	0	0	0	0
A P Davies (293)	0	0	0	0	0	0
K J Dean (294)	8	2	1	0	68	726
R R Dibden (295)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M Dimond (296)	0	0	0	0	0	4
S W K Ellis (297)	0	0	0	0	0	0
J E Emburey (298)	0	2	1	-20	40	510
R A Fay (299)	0	0	0	0	0	63
D Follett (300)	0	0	0	0	0	188
M J Foster (301)	37	3	0	0	97	1113
P J Franks (302)	0	3	1	0	80	947
R J Green (303)	0	0	0	0	0	20
G M Hamilton (304)	1	0	0	0	1	251
S Herzberg (305)	18	0	0	0	18	144
J E Hindson (306)	45	1	1	-20	65	297
B C Hollioake (307)	0	0	0	0	0	1054
J G Hughes (308)	0	0	0	0	0	85
P M Hutchison (309)	0	0	0	0	0	0
A P Igglesden (310)	3	2	0	0	43	163
J I D Kerr (311)	0	0	0	0	0	827
N Killeen (312)	0	0	0	0	0	225
J Lewis (313)	0	1	0	0	20	1003
S Lugsden (314)	0	0	0	0	0	24
R S C Martin-Jenkins (315)	0	0	0	0	0	137
A D Mascarenhas (316)	0	0	0	0	0	84
T J Mason (317)	5	0	0	0	5	386
S M Milburn (318)	0	0	0	0	0	222
R W Nowell (319)	0	0	0	0	0	0
J Ormond (320)	7	3	0	0	67	669
O T Parkin (321)	1	1	0	0	21	101
M W Patterson (322)	0	0	0	0	0	0
B J Phillips (323)	0	0	0	0	0	824
N C Phillips (324)	0	0	0	0	0	56
R A Pick (325)	0	0	0	0	0	223
N W Preston (326)	0	0	0	0	0	28
M Rawnsley (327)	0	0	0	0	0	283
S J Renshaw (328)	0	0	0	0	0	1090
M A Robinson (329)	6	7	2	0	186	957
M J Saggers (330)	0	0	0	0	0	329
J P Searle (331)	0	0	0	0	0	0
D J Shadford (332)	0	0	0	0	0	633
K P Sheeraz (333)	0	0	0	0	0	84
G C Small (334)	0	3	1	0	80	635
E J Stanford (335)	0	0	0	0	0	52
S D Thomas (336)	16	7	0	0	156	1176
J B Thompson (337)	7	0	0	0	7	565
M J Thursfield (338)	0	0	0	0	0	154
H R J Trump (339)	0	0	0	0	0	101
A J Tudor (340)	0	0	0	0	0	396
M J Vandrau (341)	71	2	1	0	131	349
A P van Troost (342)	12	2	0	0	52	157
A Walker (343)	0	2	0	0	40	870
G Welch (344)	23	6	0	0	143	1556
A G Wharf (345)	0	0	0	0	0	0
T N Wren (346)	0	0	0	0	0	51
G Yates (347)	0	0	0	0	0	912

☐ One point is awarded for each run, 20 points for each wicket and catch and 40 points for each stumping.

Five bonus points are awarded for a half-century, ten bonus points are awarded for a century and for five wickets in an innings, and 20 bonus points are awarded for ten wickets in a match.

Twenty points are deducted for a duck.

All points scored in Test matches are doubled.

☐ *Source: ECB/PA Cricket Record*

SNOOKER

£4 million pocketed in sponsorship

BY PHIL YATES

THE revitalised board of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA), which has placed paramount importance on the search for sponsors, began delivering the goods yesterday when it was announced that Liverpool Victoria has expanded its financial involvement within the game.

The country's largest friendly society is to sponsor the United Kingdom championship for the next four years in a prize-money and organisational package worth £4 million to the WPBSA, the game's governing body.

Last year the UK championship was one of a number of unsponsored tournaments on the professional circuit, even though it enjoyed extensive television coverage on the BBC. This year the event, at Preston Guild Hall in November, offers a total prize-fund of £440,000, with £75,000 going to the winner.

"This agreement shows that our sport has plenty to offer as a sponsorship vehicle for major companies," Rex Williams, the WPBSA chairman, said.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 37

LAT

(b) An obelisk or columnar monument, specifically used for the ancient Buddhist columns of Eastern India. From the Hindi *lat* or *lath* a staff or pole. "The oldest authentic examples of these lats that we are acquainted with are those which King Asoka set up."

METIF

(c) The offspring of a white and a quadroon. From the Old French *mestif* a mongrel. "The hospitality and goodness of the Creoles and Metifs *began to manifest itself*."

MOTMOT

(b) A bird of the family *Momotidae* or *Prionitidae*, native of Mexico and South America. Modern Latin. "The Motmots are a purely neotropical form. The majority of the species inhabit Central America."

LITERATA

(b) A learned or literary lady. From the Latin. Coleridge, a letter of 1794: "The young lady is said to be the most literary of the beautiful, and the most beautiful of the literatae."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rxh7! Kxh7 2 Rh1+ Kg8 (2 ... Kg7 3 f6+! Kg8 - taking the pawn loses the queen to 4 Nd5+ - 4 Rxh8+ Kxh8 5 Qh2+ and 6 Qh6 mating) 3 Rxh8+! Kxh8 4 Bxe5+ dxe5 5 Qh6+ Kg8 6 f6 and mate follows.

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Briton puts fitness doubts behind him in defence of crown

Edwards leaps into unknown

FROM ROB HUGHES
IN ATHENS

CLIVE BRUNSKILL / ALLSPORT

On the eve of qualification for the world championship triple jump final, Edwards admits that he is nervous

BY THE time Britain awakes this morning, we should know whether Jonathan Edwards is in fit shape to defend his world triple jump crown — indeed whether he, and only he, can repeat the exercise of capturing gold in an athletic discipline for the United Kingdom on a global stage.

Yesterday, looking every inch the articled clerk in his spectacles and his beachwear, this remarkable competitor admitted that he felt the weight of expectation. "It *is* important. At the Atlanta Olympics, we lacked gold, so I know that today, and hopefully the final on Friday, are important to myself, my family, but also for British athletics," he said.

"I haven't jumped for five weeks, so I cannot say the heel injury is completely gone. I'm aware of it, though not in constant pain, because an injury lingers in the mind. In that respect, this morning will be a bit of a step in the dark, but I'm not worried. I'm ready otherwise I wouldn't be here."

Put yourself in the picture. It is 6.15am British Summer Time, 8.15 in Athens. The Olympic stadium echoes to emptiness, its vast expanse of 52,000 white seats glistening in the early morning sun. In this soulless atmosphere, Charles Austin, the American world record-holder, had failed to qualify in the high jump earlier in the week.

And, although Edwards arrived in the Greek capital only on Monday night, he came very much aware and prepared for the breathtaking indifference of the Greeks, the founders of athletics, to attend their sport.

If that suggests some spectator resistance to the decision of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) to bring the world championships around on a two-year instead of a four-year cycle, then Edwards, our one defending champion, defends his sport. "I personally think it's not a bad idea," he reasons.

"Golf has four majors in a year, tennis has ten majors. So, in those sports, the competitors accept a lot of pressure. OK, when you push yourself to the limit, there is always a chance of injury, but, as a professional, I see nothing wrong in being asked at least once a season to accept that ultimate pressure of competition."

That said, this 31-year-old vicar's son looked taut and a little anxious yesterday. It could, of course, be pre-competition nerves, for he admits that there is always anxiety before coming out to qualify.

"It is a nerve-wracking experience at any time," Edwards said. "And, in my case, it would be history if I failed to qualify. I may take one jump to reach the mark, I'm prepared to make it three, but I jumped a little bit off a short approach in training last week and had no problems at all."

He says, with his one, rehearsed attempt at bravado, that the fire inside him is ready to be rekindled, that anybody who wants to beat him is in for the hardest of fights. He watched the women's triple jump — in which what crowd there was became captivated as Sarka Kasparkova, from the Czech Republic, surprised and defeated the delightful Romanian, Rodica Mateescu. "The wind seems to blow around in the face," Edwards observed, "but the track appears very, very fast. As the women have shown, it is possible to jump good distances."

Possible to beat his American adversary, Kenny Harrison? "He and I are a reasonable bit ahead of the rest of the world," Edwards said. "I have the world title, he has the Olympic title, and I would say, to win here, I have to jump one centimetre further than Kenny Harrison."

TIMETABLE

All times BST

TODAY: 06.00: Decathlon 110m hurdles 06.15: Men's triple jump, qualifying round (two groups). 07.00: Decathlon discus group A. 07.30: Women's 800m, first round. 08.15: Men's 200m, first round 08.50: Decathlon discus, group B 09.15: Women's 200m, first round 10.00: Decathlon pole vault (two groups). 15.50: Decathlon javelin group A. 16.00: 110m hurdles, semi-finals 16.10: Men's high jump, final 16.15: Women's 200m, second round 16.45: Men's 200m, second round. 17.15: Men's 800m, semi-finals 17.30: 3,000 steeplechase, final 17.40: Decathlon javelin, group B. 17.50: Women's 400m hurdles, semi-finals. 17.15: Men's 1,500m, final. 18.35: Men's 10,000m, final 19.15: Decathlon 1,500m

As we listen, one is aware that Edwards is still, essentially, a private man, who formerly worked as a PE teacher and who has worn the glitter of gold and accrued the fortune that goes with it while still retaining an aura of ordinariness. That, indeed, is *his* triumph, the quality of mind and approach to life that questions whether what he does — hop, step and jump into a pit of sand — is really all that worthwhile, compared as he once asked, with doctors in Rwanda.

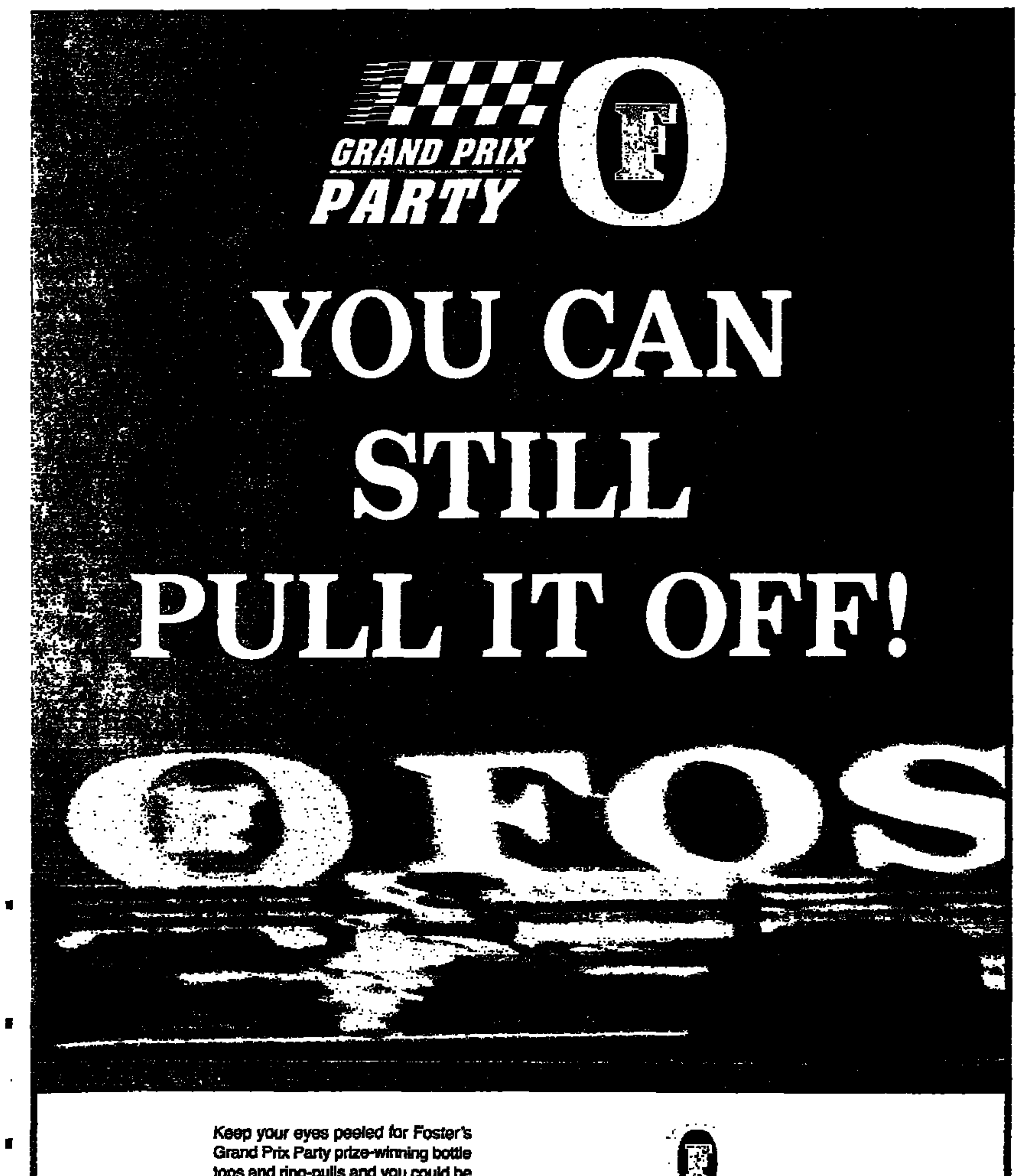
You cannot shake his conviction that he has this one phenomenal gift, and why would you try when it has propelled him farther than any other man has gone — 18.29 metres from the take-off to the heels in the sand.

The only illegal thing he may have done in his life is to jump even farther than that with wind assistance. Yet he is aware of the dubious practices of others.

He may face the Jamaican, James Beckford, who was given an amnesty from a three-month ban for taking a stimulant as a consequence of the IAAF's acquiescence to drug abusers. "I was quite surprised," Edwards admitted. "It's difficult, because, as we have seen in England, there can be cases of a faulty test.

"But the reduction in bans for drug taking does send out the wrong message. Really, the IAAF is caught between a rock and a hard place; in principle, I disagree with what it has done, but I can see the other side, the litigation that is making it so difficult."

A clean athlete, clear in his mind that he has overcome the injuries, protected today by heel cups that are slightly more cushioned, he leaps for the country, for himself, for the integrity of a sport. May the gods be with him.



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FORM GUIDE TO EVENTS

Men

200m
RECORDS: World: 19.32sec M Johnson (US) 1996. Championship: 19.79 Johnson 1995.
UK: 19.87 J Regis 1994.
1997 BEST: 19.77 A Boldon (Trin); 19.90 F Fredericks (Nam); 20.03 O Thompson (Bar). British: 20.46 J Golding; 20.76 D Walker; 20.88 O Dako.

800m
RECORDS: World: 1min 41.73sec S Coe (GB) 1981 and W Kipketer (Den) 1997. Championship: 1:43.06 B Konchellah (Ken) 1987. UK: 1:41.73 Coe 1981
1997 BEST: 1:41.73 Kipketer; 1:43.20 M Everett (US); 1:43.39 P Konchellah (Ken). British: 1:46.05 M Sesay; 1:46.35 A Hart; 1:46.4 P Walker.

1,500m
RECORDS: World: 3min 27.37sec N Morceli (Alg) 1993 Championship: 3:32.84 Morceli 1991 UK: 3:29.67 S Cram 1985.
1997 BEST: 3:29.30 H El Guerrouj (Mor); 3:30.13 L Rotich (Ken); 3:30.44 J Kibowen (Ken) British: 3:33.82 J Mayock; 3:36.20 K McKay; 3:38.36 M Yates.

10,000m
RECORDS: World: 26min 31.32sec H Gebrselassie (Eth) 1997. Championship: 27:12.95 Gebrselassie 1995 UK: 27:23.06 E Martin 1988.
1997 BEST: 26:31.32 Gebrselassie; 27:17.09 M Mourhit (Bel); 27:25.01 A Mezgebu (Eth)

3,000m steeplechase
RECORDS: World: 7min 59.18sec M Kiptanui (Ken) 1995. Championship: 8:04.16 Kiptanui 1995. UK: 8:07.96 M Rowland 1988
1997 BEST: 8:01.80 Kiptanui; 8:02.77 W Boit (Ken); 8:03.51 B Barmasai (Ken). British: 8:35.03 R Hough.

110m hurdles
RECORDS: World: 12.91sec C Jackson (GB) 1993. Championship: 12.91 Jackson. UK: 12.91.
1997 BEST: 12.97 A Johnson (US); 13.11 A Garcia (Cuba); 13.13 I Kovac (Slovakia). British: 13.20 A Jarrett; 13.24 Jackson; 13.78 A Tulloch.

High jump
RECORDS: World: 2.45m J Sotomayor (Cuba) 1993. Championship: 2.40 Sotomayor 1993 UK: 2.37 S Smith 1992, 1993
1997 BEST: 2.36 T Forsyth (Aus); 2.36 S Hoen (Nor); 2.35 K Matusevich (Isr). British: 2.31 Smith; 2.28m B Reilly; 2.27 D Grant.

Triple jump
RECORDS: World: 18.29m J Edwards (GB) 1995 Championship: 18.29 Edwards 1995. UK: 18.29 Edwards 1995.
1997 BEST: 17.74m Edwards; 17.64 Y Quesada (Cuba); 17.59m C Friedek (Ger).

Decathlon
RECORDS: World: 8,891pts D O'Brien (US) 1992. Championship: 8,817 O'Brien 1993 UK: 8,847 D Thompson 1984.
1997 BEST: 8,617pts E Hamalainen (Fin); 8,604 S Fritz (US); 8,582 T Dvorak (Czech).

Women

200m
RECORDS: World: 21.34sec F Griffith-Joyner (US) 1988 Championship: 21.74 S Gladisch (E Ger) 1987 UK: 22.10 K Cook 1984
1997 BEST: 22.17 Z Pintusevich (Ukr); 22.23 M Gainsford (Aus); 22.44 M Trandenkova (Russ). British: 22.77 K Merry. 23.44 S Jacobs.

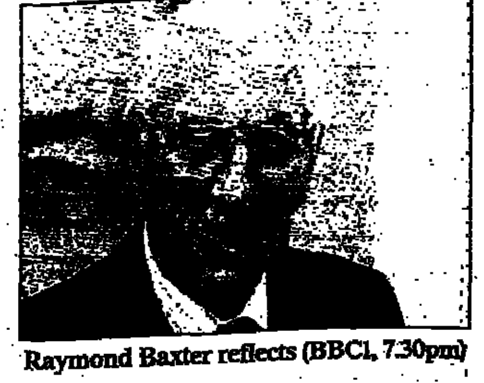
800m
RECORDS: World: 1min 53.28sec J Kratochvilova (Cz) 1983. Championship: 1:54.68 Kratochvilova (Cz) 1983. UK: 1:56.21 K Holmes 1995
1997 BEST: 1:55.78 A Quirot (Cuba); 1:57.14 Holmes; 1:57.38 Y Afanasyeva (Russ).

400m hurdles
RECORDS: World: 52.61sec K Batten (US) 1995 Championship: 52.61 Batten 1995 UK: 52.74 S Gunnell 1992
1997 BEST: 52.97 Batten; 53.18 D Hemmings (Jam); 54.05 N Bidouane (Mor); 54.05 T Buford-Bailey (US). British: 54.57 Gunnell

STAN GREENBERG

TELEVISION CHOICE

A look at past predictions



Raymond Baxter reflects (BBC1, 7.30pm)

TW Time Machine
BBC1, 7.30pm

Maggie Philbin, Howard Stableford and other veterans of *Tomorrow's World* (the TW of the title) recall choice moments from a series that has been running for 33 years. Most entertainingly, it picks up on some of those ideas which seemed bright enough at the time but somehow never made it. Such as a stepladder which converted into an ironing board or a rubber plant doubling as a television aerial. Some of the show's predictions have been equally wide of the mark. In 1965 Raymond Baxter (and the footage has survived to haunt *him*) presented Tomorrow's Girl, a gorgeous creature with a nylon wig instead of hair and wearing a paper shirt and plastic jacket and skirt. Of greater weight is the story of a cheese maker from Scotland, who was inspired by a *Tomorrow's World* item to start a chain of breast screening clinics.

Small Miracles: The Foul Smell of Success
Channel 5, 7.30pm

A series on creepy-crawlies may seem odd fare for peaktime viewing but trust Channel 5 to do the unorthodox. First up is the shield bug, which not only creeps and crawls but gives off a terrible smell. *Indeed that is part of its strategy for* survival. It is also said to taste disgusting, so this is obviously not a programme to be watched while eating. The good news is that the shield bug does little damage to crops and can help to control some pests which do. The film employs the usual wildlife format of following the subject through its annual cycle of mating and reproduction, all shown in impressive close-up by the patient cameraman, Jonathan Watts. But the poor creature does not enjoy much of an existence. Winter is spent in hibernation and one year's adults will be dead by the end of the next.

One Foot in the Past
BBC2, 8.00pm

Mancunians are presumably aware of the story of the Old Wellington Inn and the proposal to move it just 200 yards closer to the city's cathedral. For the rest of us it is another of those heritage stories which this programme manages to dig up with satisfying regularity. The case for shifting the splendid Tudor inn is less dotty than it sounds when the camera pulls back to reveal it surrounded by 1970s concrete brutalism. *But for traditionalists* the resiting will mean the end of a great Manchester landmark. Meanwhile, at Bosham on the Sussex coast, the actor Patrick Macnee, now a resident of Palm Springs, goes all lyrical over a favourite bolt hole from *The Avengers* days. In more combative mood the Scottish sculptor, *Alexander Stoddart, puts the case for a revival of* heroic monuments.

Inside Story: The Cult
BBC1, 10.00pm

Rachel Coughlan's film pieces together the story of the Heaven's Gate Cult, which made grim news at the beginning of the year when 39 of its members committed suicide in San Diego. Founded more than 20 years ago, the cult was built around a mixture of new ageism, science fiction and Christianity and promised its followers entry into the Kingdom of Heaven without having to die first. All contact with friends and family ceased as members were prepared for a level above the human. The leader was seen by his adherents as a 20th-century Jesus. To others he was suffering from a delusional mental illness. Former members, including one who left just before the suicides, describe being mesmerised by the prospect of a new life. Not even the tragedy of San Diego has shaken their belief. **Peter Waymark**

RADIO CHOICE

Thicker than Water
Radio 2, 9.30pm

On television, telling Albert Roux apart from his younger brother Michel presents no problem. On radio, it is less easy. I think I can help you: Michel *sounds* like Charles Boyer. Albert doesn't. Both are chefs *par excellence*. It is to discover what unites them as well as what divides them that Sarah Kennedy questions them tonight. Michel's favourite food smell is fresh fish. Albert selects chips fried in dripping, ennobled with sauce. Albert's Christmas menu would feature smoked salmon, caviare and turkey. Michel's would include oysters *and goose. They never ask each other for culinary* advice. Michel likes British pub food, especially soup. Both abhor invasive music in restaurants. All together now — "And so say all of us!"

The Dissection of Jeremy Bentham
Radio 4, 7.20pm

It's not just the cutting up of Bentham, the 18th / 19th century philosopher and law reformer, that the historian Ruth Richardson examines in a documentary which, given its subject matter, can't avoid being a bit gruesome now and again. It's also the dissection of a society in which murderous body snatchers provided surgeons with corpses and, more revoltingly, a society in which the living poor could legally be anatomised so that the rich could benefit and enjoy healthier lives. Bentham's body, stuffed for verisimilitude, seated and with *waxen head, is still on view at University* College, London. He authorised his own post-mortem dissection to draw attention to the procurement of corpses for anatomy. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe 9.00 Mark Goodier 11.30 Radio 1 Roadshow. Live from Southend **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jo Whiley **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Kevin Greening **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session with Steve Lamacq **8.30** Global Update **8.40** John Peel **10.30** Mary Ann Hobbs **1.00am** Claire Sturgess **4.00** Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30** Angela Rippon **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Nick Barraclough **8.00** Ralph McTell **9.00** The Nettlebed Sessions (1/5) **9.30** Thicker than Water: Michel and Albert Roux. See Choice **10.00** Steve Wright's Picture Show **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine **12.00pm** Midday News **2.00pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide in Athens **7.00** News Extra **7.35** Football Night with Mike Ingham. A look forward to the new season **9.00** Extra Time with Mark Steele **10.00** News Talk **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00am** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **9.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. **6.00am** Newsday **6.30** Europe **7.15** World Athletics Championships **7.30** Sport **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Meridian Live **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Anniversary Concert **10.05** Business **10.15** Farming **10.30** Science **10.45** Sport **11.30** One Planet **12.30pm** Sport **1.00** News in German **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain **1.30** Science **2.00** Newshour **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Megamix **4.05** Sport **4.15** Performance **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain **6.15** World Today **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sport **7.30** *The Works* **8.01** *Outlook* **8.25** *Pause for Thought* **8.30** Multitrack **9.00** Newshour **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** On Screen **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Multitrack **1.30** F.O.O.C. **1.45** Britain **2.30** Omnibus **3.30** Meridian Books **4.05** Business **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Sally Peterson **6.00** Alan Mann **9.00** Henry Kelly **1.00pm** Listeners' Requests **2.00** Classic Concerto. Hummel (Piano Concerto in B minor, Op 89); Weber (Clarinet Concerto No 2 in F minor, Op74) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight **7.30** Sonata. Delius (Violin Sonata No 3) **8.00** Classic Evening Concert. Ivanov (Caucasian Sketches); Vlasov (Five Pieces for Violin and Piano); Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 3 in C minor); Prokofiev (Waltz Suite, Op 110) **10.00** Michael Mappin **2.00am** Classic Concerto *(r)*

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Nick Abbot **4.00** Nicky Horne **6.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Janey Lee Grace **2.00am** Richard Porter

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Handel (Concerto Grosso in E minor, Op 6 No 3); Delius (Brigg Fair); Vivaldi (Salve Regina, RV616); Bach (French Suite No 4 in E flat, BWV815); Rachmaninov (Preludes, Op 23: No 2 in B flat; No 5 in G minor; No 7 in C minor); Fauré, orch Rabaud (Dolly Suite)

***9.00 Morning Collection**, with Penny Gore. Includes* Nielsen (Overture: Helios); Rigatti (Dixit Dominus); Rachmaninov (Symphonic Dances)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Mark Rowlinson. Includes Bull (Fantasia Sexti Toni); Smetana (Piano Trio in G minor, 1st mvt); Malcolm Arnold (Fantasy in A); Franck (Fantasy in A); Britten (Sanctus, War Requiem); Schumann (Humoresque, Op 20)

12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Brahms

1.00pm News; Birmingham Lunchtime Concert. Gould Trio. Frank Martin (Trio on Irish Folk Songs); Brahms (Piano Trio No 2 in C minor, Op 87 *(r)*

2.00 BBC Proms 97. Last Sunday's concert featuring Tasmin Little, violin, David James, countertenor, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, under Alexander Lazarev. Glinka (Capriccio Brillante on Jota Aragonesa); Prokofiev (Violin Concerto No 2 in G minor); Kancheli (Symphony No 3) Tchaikovsky (Francesca da Rimini) *(r)*

3.45 Pletnev Plays Mozart and Scriabin. A piano recital. Includes Mozart (Variations in F, K54); Scriabin (Deux Morceau, 57)

4.00 Choral Evensong. Live from Durham Cathedral, sung by the RSCM Cathedral Course

5.00 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson *(r)*

5.15 In Tune, with Natalie Wheen. Includes Stravinsky *(Three Dances from Petrushka)*; Vivaldi (Cello Sonata in A minor, RV44); Lutoslawski (Chain 2)

7.30 BBC Proms 97. Live from the Albert Hall. Susan Chilcott, soprano, Catherine Wyn-Rogers, mezzo, John Mark Ainsley, tenor, Gerald Finley, bass, Choir and Orchestra of the English Concert, under Trevor Pinnock. Bach (Mass in B minor, BWV232, Kyrie; Gloria) **8.20** Bach the Recycler. George Pratt explores Bach's redevelopment of his compositional resources in his *B minor Mass (r)* **8.40** Concert, part two . Bach (Mass in B minor, BWV232, Credo; Sanctus; Benedictus; Agnus Dei)

9.55 Five Poems for 50 Years: The Wind Dog, by Tom Paulin. An autobiography in sound, ranging from bomb blasts in Belfast to the sound of someone wearing hobnailed boots *(r)*

10.15 Zoltan Kodaly. Duo for violin and cello, Op 7, Performed by Anthony Marwood, violin, Louise Hopkins, cello *(r)*

10.45 The Envy of the World. Humphrey Carpenter continues his look at the history of The Third Programme and Radio 3 *(r)*

11.30 Prom Composer of the Week: Honegger *(r)*

12.30am Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather continues his survey of trumpeters. Tonight he profiles Chet Baker and Billy Butterfield

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod. Includes 1.00 Berlin Philharmonic, under Claudio Abbado. With Radu Lupu, piano. Brahms (Piano Concerto No 1 in D minor; Symphony No 1 in C minor) **2.45** Lia Altvilla, soprano, and Carla Seidel, piano, perform songs by Freitas Branco, Francisco Lacerda, Frederico Mompou, Cristobal Halffter, David de Souza, Fauré and Duparc **3.55** Suisse Romande Orchestra, Mario Venzago. With Frank Peter Zimmermann, violin. Ligeti (Violin Concerto); Schumann (Symphony No 3 in E flat, Rhenish) **5.00** Sequence

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today. Includes Thought for the Day **8.45** Core Coren. *Times* columnist Alan Coren read extracts from his new book **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 In the Psychiatrist's Chair. Professor Anthony Clare interviews the historian Norman Stone *(r)*

9.45 Summertime. The author and broadcaster Frank Delaney compares the summers he spent growing up in Tipperary with those he spends in Italy as an adult (2/4)

10.00 News; A Good Read. Jo Brand and the *Times* columnist Jonathan Meades discuss their favourite paperbacks with Thomas Sutcliffe

10.00 Daily Service (LW)

10.15 On This Day (LW)

10.30 Woman's Hour (FM), with Diana Madill

11.30 Gardeners' Question Time, with Nigel Colborn, Bob Flowerdew, Pippa Greenwood and Eric Robson *(r)*

***12.00 News; You and Yours.** Consumer news and* current affairs with Lesley Riddoch

12.25pm Protesting Too Much, by Kate Brooke and Sally Phillips. With John Fortune, Eleanor Bron and Louisa Milwood-Haigh (2/6) **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Guto Harri

1.40 The Archers *(r)* **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Love Divine, by Martyn Wade. A three-part serial about the life of the founding father of Methodism, John Wesley (1/3)

2.45 Countdown. The Egyptian author Adhaf Soueif reflects on changes for women (6/10)

3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Dale Brehen

4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Gambaccini sees the film version of *Mr Bean* starring Rowan Atkinson

4.45 Short Story: Dying to Tell You, by Tony Warren Read by Arthur Smith *(r)*

5.00 PM, with Jon Sopel and Nigel Wrench **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Round Britain Quiz. Nick Clarke chairs the cryptic quiz *(r)*

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Dissection of Jeremy Bentham. See Choice

8.05 Reading Aloud: Work. Flapper or scrubber — which kind of cleaner are you? Brenda Blethyn *reads from Biting the Dust*, by Margaret Horsfield (2/6)

8.35 Points of Departure. A series of six talks by journalists who have won the James Cameron Memorial Prize. Maggie O'Kane draws on her coverage of the war in Bosnia (2/6)

9.00 Costing the Earth. Jeremy Charles looks at what integrated transport means and assesses the risks of the public's love affair with the car (3/6)

***9.30 Kaleidoscope** (r)* **9.58** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Jeremy Harris

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Love on a Branch Line, by John Hadfield (8/10) *(r)*

11.00 Dry Slopes. The last of a comedy series written by and starring Nick Ball. With Louisa Rix, Robert Harley and Wayne Forester

11.30 And I Am the Queen of Sheba. Ken Livingstone, MP, chairs the panel game about lies, cheating and deceit. With guests Tony Hawks, Hattie Hayridge, Neil Mullarkey and Mark Steel *(r)*

12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Kitchen, by Banana Yoshimoto. Read by Emily Woof (3/5) *(r)*

12.48 Shipping Forecast

1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE: RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 ([illegible]-5.55am) CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, [illegible] Gregory and John McNamara.

صفحة من الاصل

Sorry, but there's a surfeit of sad Soviets

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

Documentaries about Mother Russia currently come in two styles. The first involves a lot of smug-looking former KGB men, cheerfully saying anything you want in exchange for American dollars. The bonus for film-makers drawn to this format is that many of the KGB officials speak good English, thus dispensing with the need for subtitles and giving the film-maker a sporting chance of keeping his or her audience for the duration.

Directors of the second style of documentary are not so fortunate. This involves a lot of sad-looking former KGB victims gloomily telling you everything they want you to hear in exchange for who knows what. Vodka? A good meal? As last night's **True Stories: Death Train** (Channel 4) made clear, there are no bonuses for film-makers in this format and precious few for those who watch it.

It didn't take a five-year plan to work out what we were in for. I'm not sure whether it was the snowy expanse or the little black strip across the bottom of the screen for subtitles that provided the first clue. But any lingering doubts were removed by the first bars of Dan Jones's score, which anywhere else might have been rather beautiful but here smacked of pastiche. Violins and haunting chorus meant only one thing. It was "gloomy Russians in gloomy rooms" time again.

Now, at this point I should own up to a certain unease, possibly even shame, about adopting such a knocking tone. This, after all, was the story of the Great Stalin Railway, the non-building of which cost the lives of an estimated 60,000-100,000 slave labourers. The point is that while the railway itself will have been news to many of us, life in Siberian prison camps is not. There is a well-read canon of powerful Gulag literature out there, accompanied more recently by the inevitable Gulag feature film. And with them, rightly or wrongly, came the Gulag clichés, many of which were embraced by Tom Roberts's film.

Snowy landscapes bled of colour, sad violins, cameras tracking through ruined wooden buildings — we have been here too many times for the familiar stories of starvation, deprivation and terrible cruelty to have much impact. Especially when thin material is stretched out to fill 90 minutes.

To be fair, history was against Roberts. When the ill-conceived project was finally cancelled (just 20 days after Stalin's death) the prisoners' last task was to remove the rails they had already laid, a job which deprived Roberts of atmospheric shots of frost-buckled track stretching across the tundra. As a result, the few bits he did find, together with the occasional wrecked steam train, we saw many times. In between, it was back to the gloomy men in gloomy rooms. I think you've got the picture.

Over on BBC1, there was a similar predictability to **Wildlife on One**. As is widely known, BBC wildlife documentaries also now come in only two varieties, the expensive ones that David Attenborough actually appears in and the much cheaper ones for which he simply provides the narration. *Wild Boar — King of the Wildwood* was one of the latter.

I had hoped that this was going to be about British wild boar, which in recent months have been causing a stir in the south of England by escaping from the enclosures where they are farmed for the meat and generally doing the sort of damage that a tusked animal, three times the weight of a man and the height of a St Bernard dog, can. But apart from a mocked-up boar hunt at the start and a token mention at the end, British boars didn't get a tusk in.

This was about Polish and Russian wild boar. Cue snow, violins and a lot of gloomy boars in gloomy sties? Thankfully not. Snow there was (it was winter, for goodness sake), but it was accompanied by a characteristically upbeat Attenborough and some lovely pictures of wild boar getting on with what wild boar do, which is basically fighting (which they do from an early age) and reproducing (which they get to a little later).

Pictures of a heavily pregnant and ferociously bad-tempered sow building her nest were particularly memorable. So too, alas, was Attenborough's occasionally excruciating script, where the words had to follow the available pictures — however tortuous the result. Apart from umpteen variations on the fighting theme, my favourite was a left-over shot of a green woodpecker, thrown in to fill a few seconds. "Like the wild boar," intoned Attenborough, "the green woodpecker takes time selecting their final nesting tree — but once they have decided on it, they build." I felt happier, knowing that.

Round at Albert Square, **EastEnders** (BBC1) is looking brighter than it has for some time. Bianca has discovered Ricky's speedway ambitions and appointed herself his manager; Barry is clearly cruising for the most delicious emotional bruising at the hands of the scary Vanessa, his newly intended; and the Mitchell brothers are again primed for a spot of summer infidelity: Grant with the flirtatious Annie (Nadia Sawalha) and Phil with the brazen Lorna (Janet Dibley).

Sawalha's arrival in Walford has heralded a new surefootedness in *EastEnders* casting, which Dibley and Adele Salem as Vanessa have done nothing to dispel. They're all grown-up women, which makes a refreshing change from troubled teenagers, but more importantly they all have a commanding screen presence that injects energy not just into their scenes but those that surround it. Mind you, it would probably take all three of them to cheer up Ted Hills.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (73051)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (94273)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (5551964)

9.20 Ready, Steady, Cook (r) (T) (5532254)

9.50 Esther Talented youngsters (r) (T) (6428341)

10.20 The Roadshow Collection (T) (5495612)

10.45 Caron Cooper's Cooking with Confidence Herbs: leg of lamb with rosemary, garlic and elderberry wine sauce and dill scones (2467506)

11.00 News (T) Regional News and weather (2238457)

11.05 Due South (r) (T) (3080308)

11.50 Good Neighbours (6080631)

12.00 News (T) Regional News and weather (4803457)

12.05pm Wipeout (r) (T) (8055761)

12.35 Neighbours (T) (1387631)

1.00 News (T) and weather (64032)

1.30 Regional News (88250148)

1.40 Columbo: Identity Crisis (1971) Crime drama, directed by Patrick McGoohan, who also stars alongside Peter Falk and Leslie Nielsen (r) (T) (4326612)

3.10 Quincy (r) (T) (1271780)

4.00 Popeye (2356235) **4.10** The Thunderlizards (2352419) **4.20** Morph TV with Tony Hart (2770457) **4.35** Prince of Atlantis (8849916) **5.00** Newsround (T) (2965877) **5.10** Bright Sparks (T) (3809490)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (272235)

6.00 News (T) and weather (761)

6.30 Regional News (341)

7.00 Big Break Stars of the Future Snooker wannabes go through their paces (T) (2148)

7.30 TW Time Machine New series. Maggie Philbin and Howard Stableford with updates on inventions seen on *Tomorrow's World*; Raymond Baxter spotlights the year of Concorde's first commercial flight (T) (525)

8.00 The National Lottery Live With music by Lewis Taylor (778235)

8.15 Selection Box: Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em Celebrity fans share their memories of the comedy series (T) (564506)

8.50 Points of View (T) (936322)

9.00 News (T) and weather (2983)

9.29 National Lottery Update (122728)

9.30 Men Behaving Badly Gary feels his age when Deborah starts hanging out with the student crowd (r) (T) (68457)

10.00 Inside Story: The Cult Investigation of the San Diego-based Heaven's Gate Cult, most of whose members took their lives in a ritual suicide pact earlier this year (T) (75780)

10.50 The X Files Double-bill: *Humbug* and *The Calusari*. With David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson (r) (T) (6718099)

12.20am The Gangster (b/w, 1947) Melodrama, with Barry Sullivan, John Ireland and Shelley Winters. A man is gradually corrupted by his slum environment and becomes a member of a vicious gang. Directed by Gordon Wiles (3481668)

1.45 Weather (3174020)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: Patterns in the Dust and Batteries Included (1627070) **6.50** Noise Annoys (9523070)

7.15 World Championship Athletics Coverage from Athens on day five features Jonathan Edwards in the men's triple jump and the women's 5,000m heats (17617896)

9.40 Smart (r) (T) (6413419) **10.05** Peter Pan and the Pirates (r) (T) (7481457) **10.30** Fireman Sam (r) (2479341) **10.40** Bump (r) (7976186) **10.45** Teletubbies (r) (166544)

11.15 Harry and the Hendersons (r) (T) (4851544) **11.35** Moon Over Miami (r) (T) (7485457) **12.20pm** It's a Living: I'm Paul and He's Trevor (r) (7527612) **12.45** The World of Wine (r) (427167) **1.15** Glynn Christian Tastes Royal Thailand (10970273) **1.40** Blockbusters (98199902) **2.05** The Natural World Classics (8127544) **3.00** News and weather (2772525) **3.05** One Lump or Two: Colonial Tea (r) (4637902) **3.20** Lifetimes in a Day (r) (2776341)

3.30 World Championship Athletics The men's high jump and 110m hurdles semi-finals. The medals are also decided in the 3,000m steeplechase and men's 10,000m while women's team captain Sally Gunnell should be bidding for a place in the 400m hurdles final at around 5.50pm (T) (1755896)

Patrick Macnee in Bosham (8pm)

8.00 One Foot in the Past Patrick Macnee revisits Bosham in West Sussex. Plus: Manchester Council's plans for a Tudor pub and the problems facing the Millennium Dome (T) (9438)

8.30 Wildlife Showcase The life cycle of the kea, New Zealand's alpine parrot, born in mid-winter and covered in a thick layer of fat to survive the harsh conditions (r) (T) (1273)

9.00 Leaving of Liverpool Wrenched from her Liverpool home for a life of drudgery on an Australian outback station, Lily meets with loneliness and abuse. Drama, starring Christina Tremarco (2/2) (r) (T) (1254)

10.30 Newsnight with Gavin Esler (T) (527877)

11.15 Gaytime TV In the last of the series, Stephen Fry talks about his starring role in the new film about the life of Oscar Wilde, and Sian Phillips sings a number from the West End musical *Marlene*. Presented by Rhona Cameron and Richard Fairbrass (T) (502728)

12.00 Weather (4591587)

12.05am Platypus Man Comedy with Richard Jeni (8593674)

12.30 Learning Zone: Open University: the Chemistry of Survival (37571) **1.00** The Chemistry of Power (71668) **1.30** The Chemistry of Life and Death (81587) **2.00** Summer Nights (90303) **4.00** Languages (86571)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (7912099)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (r) (T) (5526693)

9.55 Judge Judy (T) (3494419)

10.20 News (T) (6289167)

10.29 HTV Crimestoppers (6288438)

10.30 Murder in High Places (1991) with Ted Levine, Adam Baldwin and Judith Hoag. A newly elected mayor teams up with tough Chicago cop to investigate his former wife's brutal murder. Directed by John Byrum (51248341)

12.20pm Regional News (T) (4892341)

12.30 News (T) and weather (1380728)

12.55 Shortland Street (1365419) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (14396780) **1.50** Side Effects (r) (5358544) **2.40** Murder, She Wrote (r) (5329964)

3.20 News (T) (2789815)

3.25 Regional News (T) (2788186)

3.30 Tots TV (r) (9760029) **3.40** Tickety Boo! (6884419) **3.50** Cartoon Time (6806631) **4.00** Mooney and Magee (2374631) **4.10** Chatterhappy Ponies (T) (2769341) **4.25** Art Attack (2755148) **4.45** Sabrina the Teenage Witch (r) (T) (4145308)

5.10 Yan Can Cook: The Best of China (r) (2811612)

5.40 News (T) and weather (448341)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (299438)

6.25 HTV Weather (175419)

6.30 The West Tonight (T) (709)

7.00 Emmerdale (T) (3524)

Zuk, Danson and Hobley (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street Samantha (Tina Hobley) rescues Leanne (Jane Danson) from Mickey's (Damian Zuk) unwanted advances (T) (693)

8.00 Inspector Morse: The Secret of Bay 5b A diary and a parking ticket are found at the murder scene in a multi-storey car park. It does not appear much to go on, but Morse soon links the clues to a crime of passion (r) (T) (8273)

10.00 News (T) and weather (14148)

10.30 Regional News (T) (703983)

10.40 The Fly II (1989) with Eric Stoltz, Daphne Zuniga and Lee Richardson. The son of ill-fated scientist Dr Seth Brundle begins to develop insect characteristics. Directed by Chris Walas (18810438)

12.35am Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (9130823)

1.00 Cactus Flower (1969) with Walter Matthau, Ingrid Bergman and Goldie Hawn. A bachelor dentist asks his assistant to pose as his wife in order to stop his young mistress making marriage plans. Directed by Gene Saks (89129)

3.00 Jones and Jury (r) (82187026)

3.25 Customs Classified (r) (4239484)

4.10 Coach (23271216)

4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (70568281)

5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (34649)

5.30 News (55465)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

10.30am Film: Hart to Hart: Old Friends Never Die (51248341)

12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (1365419)

1.50-2.20 Now and Then (98173964)

2.20-3.20 Murder, She Wrote (8108419)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2811612)

6.25-7.00 Central News (557235)

12.35am Film: Circus of Horrors (680649)

2.15 In Focus (3456533)

3.05 The Chart Show (8185194)

4.00 Central Jobfinder '97 (3306216)

5.20 Asian Eye (6445129)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

10.30am Film: Hart to Hart: Old Friends Never Die (51248341)

12.55pm Home and Away (8068490)

1.20 Emmerdale (10955964)

1.50-3.20 Film: Nurse on Wheels (1992780)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2811612)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (41780)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

10.30am Cartoon Time (2473167)

10.40 David the Gnome (3980186)

11.05 Cartoon Time (4859186)

11.25 BraveStarr (4835506)

11.50 Dinosaurs (9157612)

1.50pm Summer Crafts (98173964)

2.20-3.20 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman (8108419)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2811612)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (457)

6.30-7.00 The Channel Story (709)

5.00am Freescreen (34649)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:

10.40 David the Gnome (3980186)

11.05 Cartoon Time (4859186)

11.25 BraveStarr (4835506)

11.50 Dinosaurs (9157612)

12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (1365419)

1.50 Nurses (98173964)

2.20-3.20 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman (8108419)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2811612)

6.25-7.00 Anglia News (557235)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (66761) **7.00 The Bigger Breakfast** (92676896) **9.05 Saved by the Bell: The New Class** (7374438) **9.35 The Secret World of Alex Mack** (6422167) **10.05 Sister, Sister** (7457490) **10.35 The Crystal Maze** (3380186) **11.35 The Bigger Breakfast** (9159070) **12.05pm California Dreams** (7531815) **12.30 Ricki Lake** (64631) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (66227438) **1.15 Tic Toc** (66215693) **1.30 Film: The Spanish Gardener** (19386254) **3.15 From Flores** (4285148) **3.30 Here's One I Made Earlier** (815) **4.00 Countdown** (322) **4.30 Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru Meirion A'r Cyffiniau** (87254) **6.00 Newyddion** (813167) **6.05 Heno** (200544) **6.35 Hollol Bananas** (182709) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (310815) **7.25 Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru Meirion A'r Cyffiniau** (72459612) **9.25 Newyddion** (928761) **10.00 Brookside** (826490) **10.35 Babylon 5** (386952) **11.30 Vic Reeves' Big Night Out** (49235) **12.00 Gas** (52378) **12.30am Cybill** (9139194) **12.55 Cybill** (5301939)

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (66761)

7.00 The Bigger Breakfast Incorporating **9.05** Saved by the Bell. The New Class (r) (T) **9.35** The Secret World of Alex Mack **10.05** Sister, Sister (r) **10.35** The Crystal Maze (r) (T) **11.35** The Bigger Breakfast (65753439)

12.05pm California Dreams (r) (7531815) **12.30** My So-Called Life (r) (T) (9901902) **1.25** *Two Bob Mermaid* Australian short (14303070)

1.45 The Mudlark (1950, b/w) Andrew Ray, stars as an urchin who breaks into Windsor Castle to persuade Queen Victoria (Irene Dunne) to end her 15 years of self-imposed seclusion. With Alec Guinness as Disraeli. Directed by Jean Negulesco (T) (33006411)

3.30 Here's One I Made Earlier Pot au feu of scallops; smoked haddock fingers; strawberry and almond tart (T) (815)

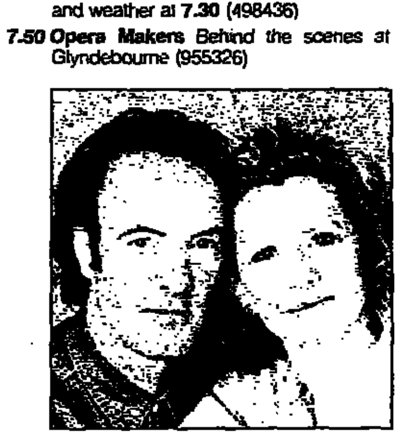
4.00 Bewitched (r) (T) (322) **4.30** Countdown (T) (1995885) **4.55** Ricki Lake (r) (T) (6046148) **5.30** Pet Rescue (r) (T) (186)

6.00 Snap! Showbiz news (T) (159)

6.30 Roseanne When Dan and Roseanne take a body language test the results are quite startling (r) (T) (821)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) Includes headlines and weather at **7.30** (498436)

7.50 Opera Makers Behind the scenes at Glyndebourne (955326)



Tense time for the Corkhills (8pm)

8.00 Brookside Jimmy decides on his new career. Will Jacqui's operation restore her sight? (T) (4506)

8.30 Babies (1990) A made-for-television drama about the dilemmas facing a disparate group of women who want to have children. Starring Lindsay Wagner, Dinah Manoff and Marcy Walker. Directed by Michael Rhodes (49910877)

10.15 Space Cadets (r) (T) (954896)

10.45 Babylon 5 Science fiction drama series (T) (986916)

11.40 Crapston Villas (r) (T) (841902)

11.55 The Avengers (b/w) starring Patrick Macnee and Diana Rigg (r) (T) (955896)

12.55am Snowbound (1948, b/w) with Robert Newton, Dennis Price and Herbert Lom. A thriller about the search for a cache of Nazi gold hidden in the Alps. Directed by David Macdonald (857484)

2.30 Father, Sons and Unholy Ghosts A young man has to learn to be a father while coming to terms with being a son (r) (6588939)

2.45 Travels with My Camera: The Train to Freedom Vitali Vitaliev returns to his Ukraine birthplace (r) (T) (4861674)

3.40 Nightwatch (r) (8776674)

4.40 Out of Order (r) (T) (70558804)

5.05 J'Accuse: St Paul's Cathedral (r) (3964668)

5.35 Film and Video Showcase (6454484)

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE

Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (7908148)

7.30 Havakazoo (6624438)

8.00 The Enid Blyton Adventure Series (1/3) (r) (2057709)

8.30 WideWorld A series about the 1930s presented by Robert Elms. The changing styles of architecture (7/10) (2049780)

9.00 Espresso (6672148)

10.00 Exclusive (r) (9191525)

10.30 Flights of Fancy: Wings Over the Rift Dr Colin Pennycuick explores the world of bird flight (r) (T) (2069544)

11.00 Leeza Chat show (2296525) **11.50** *Double Espresso* (33816254) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (2050896) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (6416849)

1.00 5 News Update (22706815) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (1907051) **2.00** 5's Company. Live entertainment show (3321506)

3.30 The Girl on the Boat (1962, b/w). A comedy, adapted from a story by P.G. Wodehouse, with Norman Wisdom, Millicent Martin and Richard Briers. Directed by Henry Kaplan (9356867)

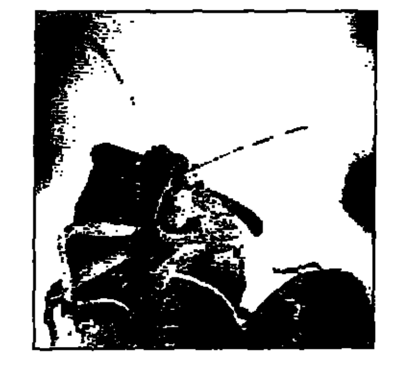
5.20 5's Company — Late Extra (60568235)

5.30 100 Per Cent (5386815)

6.00 Move on Up (5383728)

6.30 Family Affairs Jack's world begins to fall apart. Susie tells Melanie that she is in debt to her brother (T) (5367780)

7.00 Exclusive Julia Bradbury and Imogen Edwards-Jones with more showbiz gossip. Includes a report on what attracts some Hollywood stars to Scientology (8553475)



The evil-smelling shield bug (7.30pm)

7.30 Small Miracles: The Foul Smell of Success The first of an eight-part series on insects (T) (5363964)

8.00 Instant Gardens William Van Hage transforms a Newcastle concrete jungle into an oriental-style garden (2258083)

8.30 5 News with Kirsty Young (T) (7008380)

9.00 Cody Australian police drama series starring Gary Sweet (19438867)

10.50 Not the Jack Docherty Show Music and chat (1937964)

11.30 Prisoner: Cell Block H (2203877)

12.25am Live and Dangerous Includes live coverage of a US major league baseball game (22800587)

4.35 The Streets of San Francisco starring Karl Malden (T) (8919910)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6580113)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (348419) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (43322) **10.00** Another World (22070) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (19506) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (28542) **1.00pm** Geraldo (81322) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (77032) **3.00** Jenny Jones (98148) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (94493) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (5831) **6.00** Real TV (5341) **6.30** Married — with Children (6693) **7.00** The Simpsons (3032) **7.30** M*A*S*H (2877) **8.00** Seventh Heaven (20235) **9.00** Melrose Place (40099) **10.00** Silk Stalkings (43186) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (30099) **12.00** Late Show (81571) **1.00am** Hit Mix (9765303)

SKY 2

7.00pm Superboy (2115411) **7.30** Superboy (5343148) **8.00** Sightings (8753419) **9.00** New York Undercover (8768983) **10.00** Water Rats (8759070) **11.00** In the Heat of the Night (8704709) **12.00** Hit Mix (6040194)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Back Home (1990) (74438) **8.00 A Pyromaniac's Love Story** (1995) (91612) **10.00 Annie** (1981) (51996612) **12.10pm Iron Will** (1994) (416896) **2.10 All She Ever Wanted** (1996) (156780) **3.55 A Pyromaniac's Love Story** (1995) (605273) **5.30 The Long Ride** (1984) (60070) **7.00 Iron Will** (1994) (20983) **9.00 Street Fighter** (1994) (18490) **11.00 Showgirls** (1995) (7553783) **1.10am Dragstrip Girl** (1994) (8288281) **2.30 The Spiral Staircase** (1975) (44261) **4.00 Formula for Death** (1995) (24755)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.20am Freddie as FR07 (1992) (73973693) **8.00 Seventh Heaven** (1937) (89254) **10.00 Sons and Lovers** (1960) (95525) **12.00 Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls** (1995) (89877) **2.00pm Cagney and Lacey: True Convictions** (1995) (25780) **4.00 Behind the Waterfall** (1995) (8877) **6.00 Horses and Champions** (1994) (51341) **7.30 E! News Week in Review** (8815) **8.00 Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls** (1995) (17781) **10.00 The Basketball Diaries** (1995) (583984) **11.45 Twenty Bucks** (1993) (144544) **1.20am Foreign Student** (1994) (987552) **3.00 The Illustrated Man** (1969) (314216) **4.45 The Magic Adventure** (1973) (1989755)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm For Whom the Bell Tolls (1943) (29492186) **8.35 Stand by Me** (1986) (20300490) **10.00 Internal Affairs** (1990) (5712525) **12.00 Best Defence** (1984) (9557026) **1.35am All the Right Moves** (1983) (41359113) **3.05-4.50 The Glass Menagerie** (1950) (6244910)

TNT

6.00pm Father of the Bride (1950) (74989341) **11.00 Sweet Bird of Youth** (1962) (42098525) **1.00am The Last Run** (1971) (41383248) **2.40-5.00 The Journey** (1959) (26908804)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (49761) **7.30** Big Shots (91984) **8.30** Racing News (72525) **9.00** Sports Centre (63877) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (85289) **10.00** Golf: Andersen Consulting Championship (10273) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (76341) **12.30pm** Super Dragsters (41825) **1.00** Pro Beach Soccer (99780) **2.00** NASCAR — Brickyard 400 (474273) **4.59** Sports Centre (1150099) **5.00** Big Shots (7877) **6.00** Sports Centre (3167) **6.30** Futbol Mundial (4419) **7.00** The Pavilion End (82099) **7.59** Sports Centre (267273) **8.00** World of Super League (62235) **10.00** Sports Centre (77070) **10.30** Big Shots (37032) **11.30** Futbol Mundial (30525) **12.00** Sports Centre (45026) **12.30** The Pavilion End (90823) **1.30** World of Super League (17910) **3.30-4.00** Sports Centre (26736)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Big Shots (12134984) **1.00pm** Golf Extra (59858544) **3.00** Wild Spirits (71522544) **3.30** The Footballers' Football Show (76141273) **4.30** Tartan Extra (88104983) **5.00** Super Dragsters (71594761) **5.30** Golf: Wentworth Senior Masters (55893341) **6.30** The Winning Post: Nottingham and Epsom — Live (44835032) **8.30** Sports Centre (71502780) **9.00** Golf Extra (74998038) **11.00-11.30** European Tour Weekly (22721524)

EUROSPORT

6.00am Athletics: World Championships — Live (8292934) **11.00** Athletics: World Championships (97235) **12.30pm** Mountain Biking: Tour de France (96693) **1.00** Water Skiing: World Cup (73728) **1.30** Tennis: Great American Insurance Championship (74612) **3.00** Athletics: World Championships (7418438) **3.40** Athletics: World Championships — Live (18869709) **7.30** Tennis: Great American Insurance Championship — Live (53544) **9.30** Athletics: World Championships (86148) **11.00** Mountain Biking: Tour de France (41254) **11.30** ATP Tour Review (25693) **12.00-12.30am** Olympic Magazine (30194)

UK GOLD

7.00am Animal Magic (2920341) **7.35** Neighbours (8338099) **8.00** Crossroads (3684032) **8.25** EastEnders (7584983) **9.00** The Bill (3695419) **9.30** Shelley (5939612) **10.00** Tellystack (8536308) **10.30** The Sullivans (3817631) **11.00** Bergerac (16413728) **12.05pm** Crossroads (85043780) **12.30** Neighbours (5940728) **1.00** EastEnders (4286591) **1.35** Morecambe and Wise (8242159) **2.35** After the Show (1409419) **2.50** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (5700322) **3.30** The Bill (3164148) **4.00** Minder (4335728) **5.00** Casualty (19563691) **6.05** EastEnders (3265380) **6.40** Brush Strokes (5164070) **7.20** Dr Who: The Masque of Mandragora (6480148) **7.50** George and Mildred (8757815) **8.20** Hi-De-Hi (4234457) **9.00** The Bill (4924612) **9.30** The Chief (33415457) **10.35** Sports Anorak of the Year (2747709) **11.05** The New Statesman (6903870) **11.40** FILM: Twilight Zone: Rod Serling's Lost Classics (1727235) **1.10am** Hazell (8597842) **2.05** Shopping (55853216)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (9962772) **7.00** Coronation St (1733544) **7.30** Families (1712051) **8.00** Surprise! Surprise! (6055419) **9.00** Richard and Judy (7675983) **9.30** Doctor at Large (5563438) **10.00** Gentle Touch (1718235) **11.00** Bust (1738099) **12.00** Coronation St (7682419) **12.30pm** Families (5587254) **1.00** Two's Company (1732815) **1.30** Classic Interiors (5586525) **2.00** Surprise! Surprise! (3462070) **3.00** Gentle Touch (1688254) **4.00** Richard and Judy (5974099) **4.30** Doctor at Large (5963983) **5.00** Sherlock Holmes (7684099) **6.00** Families (5951148) **6.30** Coronation St (5975728) **7.00** Dutch Girls (78360490) **8.45** Richard and Judy Interviews (4401506) **9.00** Coronation St (1696273) **9.30** The Comedians (5547490) **10.00-11.00** Sherlock Holmes (5291831)

Leonardo DiCaprio's descent into squalor (Movie Channel, 10pm)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo's Circus (12490) **6.30** Faerie Tale Theatre (80709) **7.30** Little Mermaid (3009475) **7.55** Timon and Pumbaa (8471419) **8.10** Goof Troop (2837065) **9.00** Tale Spin (9885490) **9.25** Aladdin (6654032) **10.15** Quack Pack (3311877) **11.00** Boy Meets World (9989070) **11.25** The Wonder Years (6823902) **11.50** Timon and Pumbaa (8745780) **12.05pm** Bonkers (3907693) **12.30** Paddington Bear (52911419) **12.35** Big Garage (41192709) **12.50** Sing Me a Story (1105322) **1.15** Madison's Adventures: Growing Up Wild (65020761) **1.40** Adventures in Wonderland (92690834) **2.05** Small Stones (46805148) **2.10** Lamb Chop's Play-Along (15123761) **2.40** Care Bears (5095341) **3.00** Little Mermaid (7979803) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (6626032) **3.40** Tale Spin (8387439) **4.30** Chooseday (8264) **5.00** Aladdin (7281896) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (1184693) **5.35** Mighty Ducks (173525) **6.00** Flash Forward (6419) **6.30** Boy Meets World (8029) **7.00** Thunder Alley (4186) **7.30 FILM: Now You See Him, Now You Don't** (36490) **9.00-10.00** Touched by an Angel (11525)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Delfy and His Friends (7430099) **6.30** Pinocchio (3088524) **7.00** Samurai Cats (8788761) **7.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (8707896) **8.00** Casper (1036457) **8.30** Power Rangers (2466298) **9.00** Masked Rider (2286790) **9.30** Beetleborgs (5666506) **10.00** Spiderman (8795780) **11.00** X Men (2650780) **11.30** Phantom 2040 (2668709) **12.00** The Tick (8886934) **12.30pm** Life with Louie (5880322) **1.00** Casper (8787032) **1.30** Eek! (5869693) **2.00** Samurai Cats (6715475) **2.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (5355983) **3.00** Casper (1585772) **3.30** Power Rangers (5367728) **4.00** Masked Rider (5346235) **4.30** Beetleborgs (5342419) **5.00** Spiderman (3565952) **6.00** X Men (5356612) **6.30-7.00** Goosebumps (5347964)

TCC

6.00am Inspector Gadget (25964) **6.30** Dangermouse (39693) **7.00** Dennis the Menace (80051) **7.30** Where's Wally? (89186) **8.00** Batman (75326) **8.30** Art Attack (92983) **9.30** Earthworm Jim (23761) **10.00** Gravedale High (53273) **10.30** Flash Gordon (18341) **11.00** Creepy Crawlers (77693) **11.30** Cadillacs and Dinosaurs (78322) **12.00** Gravedale High (25803) **12.30pm** Street Dawgs (34877) **1.00** Batman (69322) **1.30** Dangermouse (33148) **2.00** *Creepy Crawlers* (6544) **2.30** Flash Gordon (1964) **3.00** Sonic (5051) **3.30** Earthworm Jim (3709) **4.00** Dennis the Menace (5544) **4.30-5.00** Art Attack (1728)

CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop cartoons from **5.00am** to **9.00pm**. Includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Flintstones

NICKELODEON

6.00am Dr Seuss (70490) **6.30** Will Quack Quack/Little Bear Stories/Bananas in Pyjamas/Victor and Maria (41631) **7.00** Babar (70631) **7.30** Tales from the Cryptkeeper (66438) **8.00** Jumanji (71896) **8.30** Hey Arnold! (70167) **9.00** Rugrats (61419) **9.30** Rugrats (98051) **10.00** Doug (32983) **10.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (93631) **11.00** Rocko (39419) **11.30** The Ren and Stimpy Show (30148) **12.00** The Adventures of Pete and Pete (74983) **12.30pm** Clarissa Explains it All (63047) **1.00** Alex Mack (79802) **1.30** Round the Twist (57998) **2.00** Bailey Kipper (5032) **2.30** Littlest Pet Shop (3780) **3.00** Steelin' Around (4167) **3.30** Bruno the Kid (5525) **4.00** Hey Arnold! (4032) **4.30** Rugrats (3544) **5.00** Sister Sister (9612) **5.30** Sister Sister (4896) **6.00** Moesha (1709) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (5761)

TROUBLE

12.00 Byker Grove (3693051) **12.30pm** Ready or Not (5935896) **1.00** Madison (1794983) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (6934167) **2.00** Swan's Crossing (7535713) **2.30** 9-2-5 (3177099) **3.00** Byker Grove (7202582) **3.30** Hangtime (3172544) **4.00** California Dreams (3151051) **4.30** Saved by the Bell (3157235) **5.00** Sweet Valley High (2252083) **5.30** Ready or Not (3171815) **6.00** Hangtime (3178728) **6.30** Madison (3152780) **7.00** Saved by the Bell (2157439) **7.30-8.00** California Dreams (3158964)

BRAVO

8.00pm RoboCop (9380780) **9.00** LA Heat (9300544) **10.00** Tour of Duty (9309631) **11.00 FILM: Fritz the Cat** (9822896) **1.00am** LA Heat (1829007) **2.00** Tour of Duty (7193113) **3.00 FILM: The Boys from Brazil** (5590668) **5.00** RoboCop (7762736)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Roseanne (6148) **7.30** Family Ties (4273) **8.00** *E UK* (5896) **8.30** Wings (7631) **9.00** Cheers (42983) **9.30** Dr Katz (12631) **10.00** Nurses (75612) **10.30** Garry Shandling (51032) **11.00** Comedy Store (54728) **11.30** Lounge Lizards (38167) **12.00** Soap (43668) **12.30am** Bob (97991) **1.00** Cheers (79755) **1.30** Dr Katz (92194) **2.00** E UK (14991) **2.30** Comedy Store (33026) **3.00** Nurses (59991) **3.30-4.00** Wings (24378)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Space Precinct (5363148) **9.00 FILM: Conan the Destroyer** (19502983) **11.15** Dominion Tank Police (9870693) **12.30am** Robotech (3527129) **1.00 FILM: Conan the Destroyer** (8300910) **3.00-4.00** Dark Shadows (1869533)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00pm The Joy of Painting (3686761) **9.30** The Garden Show (5937254) **10.00** Garden Club (4831790) **10.30** Craftwise (3615273) **11.00** Room for Improvement (4302490) **11.30** Graham Kerr (4310419) **12.00** Julia Child (3606525) **12.30am** HomeTime (5931070) **1.00** This Old House (1707457) **1.30** New Yankee Workshop (5930341) **2.00** The House (9513047) **2.30** Just for Starters (3173273) **3.00** Furniture to Go (1802542) **3.30-4.00** Two's Country (3145490)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm History's Turning Points (3164525) **4.30** Air Ambulance (3160709) **5.00** Next Steps (6652849) **5.30** Jurassica II (3144761) **6.00** Wild Guide (3174902) **6.30** Wildfilm (3165254) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (6757493) **7.30** History's Turning Points (3161438) **8.00** Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe (1591371) **8.30** Ghosthunters II (1707998) **9.00** The Bermuda Triangle (9373490) **10.00** Lotus Elise **11.00** Taiwan Reconnaissance Commandoes (4334099) **11.30** USAF Special Operations (4136542) **12.00** Secret Weapons (3131397) **12.30am** Air Ambulance (9462113) **1.00** History's Turning Points (1567397) **1.30-2.00** Next Step (8719378)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm The War in the East (9750099) **5.00** The Native Americans (4735780) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries (7016273) **7.00-8.00** Biography: Margaret Thatcher (5387728)

CHALLENGE TV

5.05pm Cross Wits (2075457) **5.50** Family *Fortunes* (181544) **6.30** *Catchphrase* (414214) **7.05** Winner Takes All (115322) **7.40** Give Us A Clue (926525) (888186) **8.20** All Clued Up (456885) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (309780) **9.35** Sale of the Century (294419) **10.10** Treasure Hunt (784815) **11.20** Stude (405964) **12.00** Through the Keyhole (81842) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (43939) **1.30** Sweet Justice (68484) **2.30** African Skies (71200) **3.00** My Two Dads (93303) **3.30** Big Brother Jake (62552) **4.00** The Fall Guy (85649) **5.00** Shopping (2149216)

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (38198341) **9.05** Gladrags and Glamour (9575525) **9.15** Gordon Elliott (1368877) **10.05** Jerry Springer (8130322) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (4241525) **11.50** Brookside (9211780) **12.25pm** Take a Letter (78274780) **12.55** Tempest (8486544) **1.40** Rolonda (8779877) **2.30** The Heat Is On (2204728) **3.00** Could It Be a Miracle? (3610186) **3.45** Date with Fate (12697761) **4.05** Jerry Springer (6744273) **5.05** Lingo (46472525) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (2208544) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (8684761) **6.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (7192032) **7.05** Hearts Afire (3789903) **7.35** Could It Be a *Miracle?* (1969308) **8.10** Rolonda (3437964) **9.00 FILM: Roe v Wade** (9376709) **11.00-12.00** The Sex Files

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** ZEE Presents **8.00** Raahat **8.25** Ek Nazar **8.30** A Question of Cricket **9.00** Manzil **9.30** Nagar Pane Roop Nagar **10.00** Tara **11.00** The Low Cal Show **11.30** Kya Scene Hai **12.00** Daraar **12.30pm** Raahat **1.00 FILM: Naraaz** **4.00** ZEE Presents **4.05** Public Demand **5.00** Zone Time **5.25** All Lalls **6.00** The Real Countdown **6.25** Ek Nazar **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** *Kamal Kombination* **7.30** Banegi Apni Baat **8.00** News **8.35** Dastaan **9.05** Awaazein **10.00** Filmi Baatein **10.30** Purush *Kshetra* **11.15-12.00** Horror Show

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RUGBY UNION 37

Hallett steps down in name of unity

SPORT

SAILING 38

Stormy weather continues to disrupt Cowes

Outsider from South Africa thwarts latest British attempt to end silver streak

Backley fails to convert golden goal

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, IN ATHENS

THE invisible man, as Steve Backley labelled himself this season, was beaten by the *unknown athlete in the javelin* at the world championships here yesterday. It is doubtful whether these championships will provide a greater upset than the one manufactured by Marius Corbett, from South Africa, which denied Backley the gold medal.

Backley, who had finished *as runner-up at the* 1995 world championships and the 1996 Olympic Games, had to settle for second place once again. His consistency is, one imagines, matched only by his frustration.

If there was a consolation, it was that he went into the sixth and final round outside the *medals but produced his best* effort under pressure. Mick Hill, his fellow Briton, thus had the bronze medal snatched away by his close friend. Hill finished fourth.

The British silver streak was therefore continued. Since Jonathan Edwards won his triple jump gold medal at the *1995 world championships in* Gothenburg, British athletes have won 17 silver medals in global championships, without striking gold. They gathered three in Gothenburg, after Edwards had performed, four at the Olympic Games in Atlanta, four at the world junior championships, three *at the world indoor championships* and one in the world cross-country championships last March, through Paula Radcliffe. Backley's silver, after Denise Lewis's in the heptathlon, 24 hours earlier, merely perpetuated the sequence.

Backley's disappointment *might have been bearable had* his conqueror been Jan Zelezny, the Czech who has *swept all before him during* the past three years, indeed since Backley beat him to the European title in 1994. But to *lose to an opponent he knew* little about, and who carried no pedigree at the highest level, will heighten his frustration.

Corbett, 21, came into the competition with a personal best of 83.90 metres and his first-round throw suggested that he was not likely to *improve it. He managed only* 76.58 metres.

The world junior champion in 1994, Corbett had made no mark at all on the senior international scene but his coach's masterstroke was to *instruct him to take part in a* competition in Stellenbosch in the early part of the season to *study Zelezny at work first-hand*

In the first round, Hill, the fifth to throw, took an early *lead with 84.48 metres but* Sergey Makarov, from Russia, and Boris Henry, from Germany, recorded longer distances as they followed him. Backley managed 82.94 metres and Zelezny, the last to throw, was greeted by laughter from the crowd when his first throw fell so short that he *stepped out of the arc to* register a foul.

The competition came alive in the second round when Corbett threw an African record of 88.40 metres, 4.50 metres farther than his previous lifetime best and ten metres beyond his best coming into the season. It proved *to be the winning mark.* Next to throw was Hill who, undaunted, moved up to second place with 86.54 metres and Backley added two metres to his first-round effort to go third with 84.74.

By the end of the round, however, Kostas Gatsioudis, Greece's only genuine hope of a gold medal on home soil, had added five metres to his first effort with 86.64, which put him in second place.

Zelezny, with his second-round throw, failed to find the landing sector and, with only the top eight athletes after three rounds progressing for a further three throws, the Czech needed to find a good effort. However, his 82.04 metres fell 76 centimetres short of the last qualifier, Aki Parvianen, and he was out.

The athletes threw in reverse order, now that they *were whittled down to eight,* but only Backley managed to improve on his distance from the first half of the competition.

Andy Hart's elimination from the 800 metres yesterday, in the second round, strengthened the argument over whether too many of the Great *Britain squad had arrived* ill-prepared. Injuries, and a failure to cope with the heat, have resulted in an unusually high failure rate in the qualifying rounds.

British officials, justifiably, judge team success at international championships not only in medals but in personal *bests. In other words, if developing* athletes respond to the challenge, and confirm their potential, that is a measurable reward. There have, however, been precious few personal bests here.

It must, therefore, have brought welcome relief to the management when Colin *Jackson, Tony Jarrett,* and Sally Gunnell, Britain's three outstanding achievers over hurdles during the first half of the decade, found their best form of the season yesterday. In the first round of the 110 metres hurdles, staged early in the morning, Jackson recorded 13.19 seconds, his fastest of the season, to win the sixth heat. Jarrett, too, won his heat, in 13.27sec, to join his *fellow Briton in the semi-finals* today. Allen Johnson, *from the* United States, the world and Olympic champion, is also among the last 16. Johnson predicted that the final would be "a great one". Gunnell also ran a season's best time to enter the semi-finals of the 400 metres hurdles.

Leap into the unknown ... 42
Results ... 38

Backley puts everything into his effort to grab the gold medal in Athens yesterday, before finally having to settle for the silver once again

British hopes trail in Johnson's wake

FROM DAVID POWELL

STILL we wait for Great Britain's first global men's 400 metres champion since *Eric Liddell won the Olympic* title in 1924. Michael Johnson, from the United States, came out of the other side of his personal crisis here yesterday when he put a worrying season behind him by winning his third successive gold medal over one lap at the biennial world championships.

The race was a huge disappointment for Britain, not so *much because Johnson won,* but because, on the first occasion that Britain had seen three men progress into the final, only one managed a personal-best time. The athletes had predicted a British record at least.

In the event, however, only Mark Richardson, who finished fourth, had reason for any satisfaction. His time, 44.47sec, was a personal best and elevated him from fifth place to joint-third on the *national all-time list.*

Johnson was a clear-cut winner in, for him, a moderate time of 44.12sec. Davis Kamoga, from Uganda, took the silver medal in 44.37sec and Tyree Washington, from the United States, the bronze in 44.39sec.

Iwan Thomas, on whose *shoulders the heaviest British* hopes depended, paid a high price for his outrageously fast start. *Thomas, who likes to get* away briskly, even false-started and, when the athletes were clean away second time, it was the British record-holder who made the fast early running. By 200 metres, he was level with Johnson, who was on his outside, and as they ran around the top bend, the American was unable to make up the gap.

Into the straight, Thomas led but, suddenly, he seemed to start treading water. John*son came past 80 metres from* home and four others followed as Thomas finished sixth in 44.52sec. Jamie Baulch was last in 45.22.

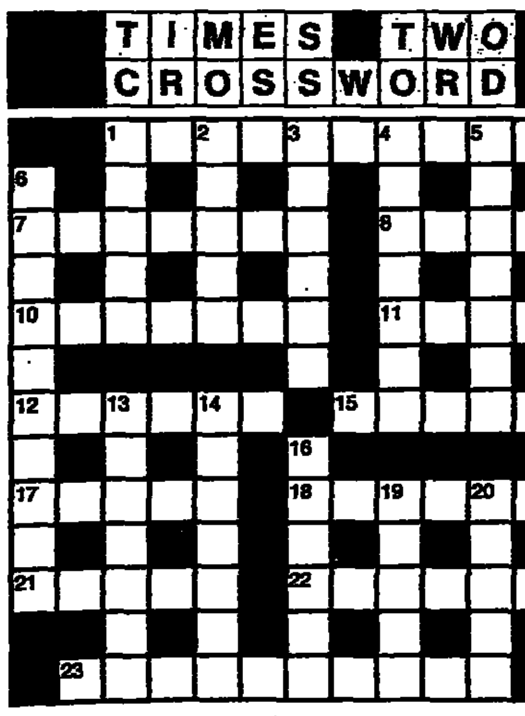
Johnson is unbeaten in world championship finals stretching back to 1991. This had been a turbulent ride, beginning in June when, racing *Donovan Bailey over 150* metres in a challenge race in Toronto, he pulled up with a *quadriceps injury.*

When he attempted to make his comeback in Paris later that month, he lost his eight-year unbeaten streak, covering 58 finals, at 400 metres. He missed the United States trials for the world championships and would not have appeared here but for the International Amateur Athletic Federation changing its rules to accommodate him. Belatedly, they offered him a so-called wild card.

Johnson had to wait 20 minutes after his second-round race before discovering that his time of 45.39sec had earned him one of the four fastest losers' places. He had slowed down short of the line and was beaten to the third and final automatic place.

Johnson's wild card had provoked controversy. Among those who spoke out against his inclusion was Merlene Ottey, the senior stateswoman of sprinting. "I do not like the way it was *done,*" Ottey said. "I believe that, if Michael Johnson had not been injured, there would have been no wild cards."

Washington, his own team colleague, did not like it either. "It is completely unfair," Washington said. "It is nothing but politics and there are plenty of athletes here just as unhappy."



No 1165

ACROSS
1 *Complete expert* (4,6)
7 Sweet drink taken with eg coffee (7)
8 Coordinate accurately (5)
10 Take in air (7)
11 Have fantasy (5)
12 Observe; display of info (6)
15 NW town, has *Wanderers* (6)
17 Wood texture: wheat etc (5)
18 Unbeliever (7)
21 *Acceptor* (eg of bet) (5)
22 Prevarication (7)
23 Teenager (10)

DOWN
1 Resentment: *pride* (oneself) (5)
2 A bon-bon (5)
3 Tasty mouthful (6)
4 Whatsisname: rascal (2-3-2)
5 Obvious (7)
6 Unreliable person (3-2-5)
9 Ground between armies (2,4,4)
13 Followed movements (of) (7)
14 Govern, manage (7)
16 Forearm-flexing muscle (6)
19 Thin chipped-off piece (5)
20 Rationalist believer (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1164
ACROSS: 1 Ecstasy 5 Fête 8 Sitter 9 At once 10 Instinct 12 Mull 13 Husbandry 17 Path 18 Sapphire 20 Stooge 21 Tomato 23 Wren 24 Hydrant
DOWN: 2 Client 3 Tot 4 Siren 5 Frogmarch 6 Tickle 7 Walton 11 Touch down 14 Bushel 15 Patter 16 Proton 19 Putty 22 Mar

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 1160
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ACROSS: 1 Imprimatur 8 Samovar 9 Nitre 10 Rose 11 Pardoner 13 Custom 15 Wake up 17 Upheaval 18 Deal 21 Allot 22 Unveils 23 Recuperate
DOWN: 2 Mumps 3 Rave 4 Mortal 5 Tone-deaf 6 Retinue 7 Metropolis 8 Structural 12 Monastic 14 Scholar 16 Gazump 19 Exist 20 Over

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Counties offer cautious welcome

Simon Wilde finds a mixed response to the formula for a brighter cricketing future

In the Banqueting Suite at Lord's yesterday, *the* members of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) were presented with Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth's vision of the future of the game, the result of nine *months' intensive research* and deliberation. The leaks of the plans had proved largely accurate.

The response to the presentation was largely favourable, especially from the richer counties. There was approval for the proposals for one-day cricket, which include replac*ing the Sunday league and* Benson and Hedges Cup in 1999 with a two-division 50-overs national league competition with promotion and relegation, and an expanded NatWest Trophy.

The endorsement of the three-conference county championship, with end-of-season play-offs next season, was more guarded and the plans to phase out the second *XI competition and raise the* profile of club cricket proved more contentious.

Members have six weeks in which to consider their responses and suggest amendments before voting — for a straight majority — on September 15. Early indications from the various levels of the game, however, were mixed.

Bob Bennett, the chairman *of Lancashire, was delighted.* "This is a step forward for the game," he said. "I am looking forward to its implementation." But Peter Anderson, the chief executive of Somerset, said he was "a bit shell-shocked".

Anderson continued: "There were some pretty good ideas, *there is a reduction in championship* cricket, which is a worry; and an increase in one-day cricket, which appeals. There *may be fewer* 'earnings days', but, the way they have arranged things, earning-*power may be increased.*"

Tony Pigott, the chief executive of Sussex, will be showing the report to the members. "Outside first-class cricket, the plan is excellent, but the *reduction in four-day cricket is* definitely a grey area," Pigott said. "We want to produce better Test players and cutting down on four-day matches is not the way to educate them."

David Lloyd, the England coach, disagreed. "I am pleased. It should produce more competitive cricket, better rest periods and better net periods, which should all *make for better cricketers.*"

The players will be asked their opinions between now and September. David Graveney, general secretary of the Professional Cricketers' Association (PCA) and chairman of the England selectors, said that his choice for the county championship would *have been two divisions with* promotion and relegation.

"But a system with play-offs is a good alternative," he said.

Matthew Fleming, the PCA chairman, thought that the majority of players would be *pleased. "From what I have* seen, it would mean an average of three championship matches a month, giving players a week off, and time for training and to recover from injuries," Fleming said.

Plans to scrap the second XI competition were described as "flawed" by Nick Cook, the *second XI coach of Northamptonshire.* "Professional cricketers do not come out of the leagues, even in Lancashire and Yorkshire; they come from the age groups," he said. "Club pitches are not good enough and, *if the surfaces are* not right, you are doomed."

Dav Whatmore, the Australian-bred coach of Lancashire, suggested that England was trying to mirror the Australian system. "Before a cricketer is selected for his state in Australia, he has to do well for his club," he said. "Reducing *county staffs might* be a good thing, because there are so many players it is easy for someone to get lost."

Micky Stewart, the ECB's director of coaching and excellence, agreed. "The best players will want to play for the best club sides in the country. If it comes right, we will see a big acceleration in standards," he said.

Derek Bridge, chairman of *the Minor Counties Cricket* Association, said: "We may need to modify and co-operate and turn our ways towards the future of English cricket. It is not so disastrous as it looked two or three years ago, when it appeared some people thought we were a waste of time."

MacLaurin in detail ... 40
Records tumble ... 41

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